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• Iwasawa, Haruo

Yokkaichi, Mie (JP)

• Kajita, Toru

Yokkaichi, Mie (JP)

• Iwanaga, Shin-ichiro

Yokkaichi, Mie (JP)

(30) Priority: 19.12.1996 JP 353866/96

(71) Applicant:

JAPAN SYNTHETIC RUBBER CO., LTD.

Tokyo-to (JP)

(74) Representative:

Böhling, Gerhard, Dipl.-Chem. et al

Patentanwaltsbüro

Tiedtke-Böhling-Kinne & Partner

Bavariaring 4

80336 München (DE)

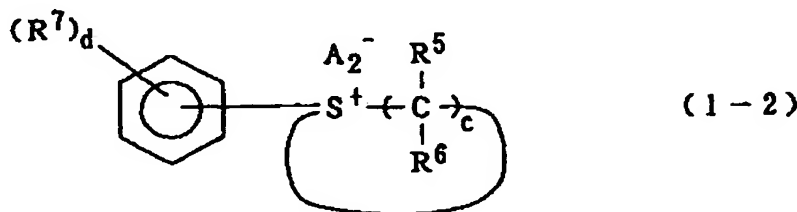
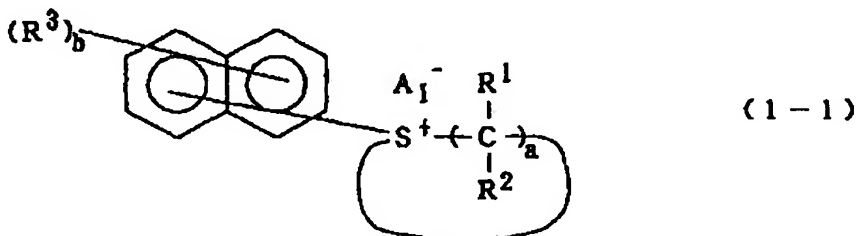
(72) Inventors:

• Suwa, Mitsuhito

Yokkaichi, Mie (JP)

(54) Radiation sensitive resin composition

(57) A positive-tone or negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising (A) a photoacid generator represented by the following formula (1-1) or (1-2):



wherein R¹, R², R⁵, and R⁶ are an alkyl group, R³ and R⁷ are a hydroxyl group or -OR⁴ (wherein R⁴ is an organic group), A₁⁻ and A₂⁻ indicate a monovalent anion, a and c denote an integer of 4-7, and b and d an integer of 0-7. The positive-tone resin composition further comprises (B1) an acid-cleavable group-containing resin or (B2) an alkali-soluble resin and an alkali solubility control agent, and the negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition further com-

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prises (C) an alkali-soluble resin and (D) a crosslinking agent. The resin compositions are highly sensitive and exhibit superior resolution and pattern forming performance.

Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a positive-tone or negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition which contains a specific photoacid generator and is useful as a resist suitable for use in precision machining utilizing various types of radiation such as ultraviolet light, deep ultraviolet light, X-rays, or charged particle rays.

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Description of the Background Art

There is an increasing demand for miniaturization, requiring reduced processing sizes in lithography, in fields requiring fine work such as manufacture of integrated circuits (ICs) in order to achieve high integrity in ICs. Technologies capable of fine processing, even of a size of 0.5 μm or smaller, in a stable manner have become necessary in recent years. Because of this, resists used in such a technology must be capable of forming patterns smaller than 0.5 μm at high precision. It is extremely difficult to produce a minute pattern smaller than 0.5 μm at a high precision by conventional methods using visible light (wavelength 800-400 nm) or near ultraviolet light (wavelength 400-300 nm). Because of this, the use of short wavelength radiation (wavelength 300 nm or less) has been studied.

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Given as examples of such a short wavelength radiation are deep ultraviolet rays, such as a bright line spectrum of a mercury lamp (wavelength 254 nm), a KrF excimer laser (wavelength 248 nm), and an ArF excimer laser (wavelength 193 nm); X-rays such as synchrotron radiation; and charged particle rays such as an electron beam. Lithography using an excimer laser among these is attracting a great attention due to its high output and high efficiency. For this reason, the resists used in lithography also must produce minute patterns of 0.5 μm or less with high sensitivity and high resolution by excimer laser with good reproducibility.

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A chemically amplified resist using a radiation sensitive acid generator which generates an acid by being exposed to radiation (hereinafter referred to as "exposure") and in which the sensitivity of resist is increased by the catalytic action of the acid has been proposed as a resist applicable for use with deep ultraviolet light such as from an excimer laser.

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As examples of such chemically amplified resists, a combination of a resin protected by a t-butyl group or t-butoxy carbonyl group and a photoacid generator is disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 45439/1984. Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 52845/1985 discloses a combination of a resin protected by a silyl group and a photoacid generator. Beside these, there are many reports relating to chemically amplified resists such as, for example, a resist which contains a resin having an acetal group and a photoacid generator (Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 25850/1990).

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Given as examples of the photoacid generator used in these chemically amplified resists are onium salts, such as triphenylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, triphenylsulfonium hexafluoroantimonate, triphenylsulfonium naphthalenesulfonate, cyclohexylmethyl(2-oxocyclohexyl) sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate; sulfonate of 2,6-dinitrobenzyl, tris(methanesulfonyloxy)benzene, and bis(cyclohexylsulfonyl)diazomethane. These conventional photoacid generators are generally unsatisfactory in their sensitivity. Some photoacid generators have relatively high sensitivity, but their overall resist performance, such as resolution and pattern configuration, is not necessarily sufficient.

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In view of this situation, there has been a strong desire for the development of a photoacid generator exhibiting high sensitivity and high resolution, and capable of producing fine pattern configuration.

An object of the present invention is therefore to provide a positive tone or negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition capable of producing a superior resist pattern with high sensitivity, high resolution, excellent pattern configuration.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

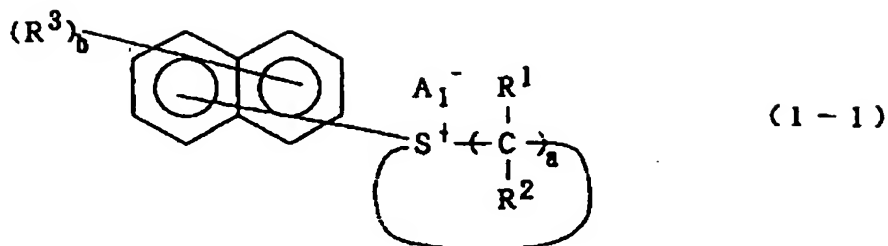
This object can be achieved in the present invention by a positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising:

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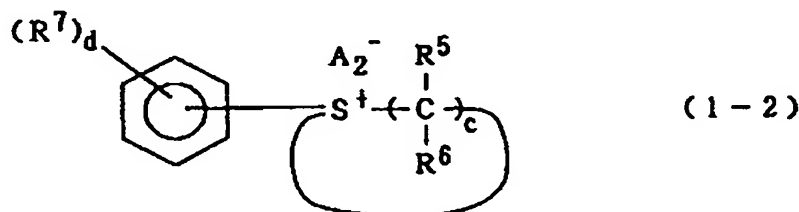
(A) a photoacid generator represented by the following

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formula (1-1):



15 wherein R^1 and R^2 may be either same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^3 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^4$ (wherein R^4 is an organic group having 1-6 carbon atoms), A_1^- indicates a monovalent anion, a denotes an integer of 4-7, and b is an integer of 0-7; or formula (1-2):



30 wherein R^5 and R^6 may be either same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^7 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^8$ (wherein R^8 is an organic group having 1-6 carbon atoms), A_2^- indicates a monovalent anion, c denotes an integer of 4-7, and d is an integer of 0-7;

35 (B1) An acid-cleavable group-containing resin which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes soluble in alkali when the acid-cleavable group is cleaved; and
(B2) an alkali-soluble resin and an alkali solubility control agent.

The above object can also be achieved in the present invention by a negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising:

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- (A) a photoacid generator which is shown by the above formulas (1-1) or (1-2);
 - (C) an alkali-soluble resin;
 - (D) a compound capable of cross-linkable the alkali-soluble resin in the presence of an acid.

45 Other and further objects, features and advantages of the present invention will appear more fully from the following description.

DETAIL DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION AND PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

50 The present invention will now be described in detail.

Photoacid generator

55 The photoacid generator (hereinafter referred to as photoacid generator (A)) used in the positive tone or negative radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention is a compound represented by the above formulas (1-1) or (1-2). This compound chemically change on being irradiated.

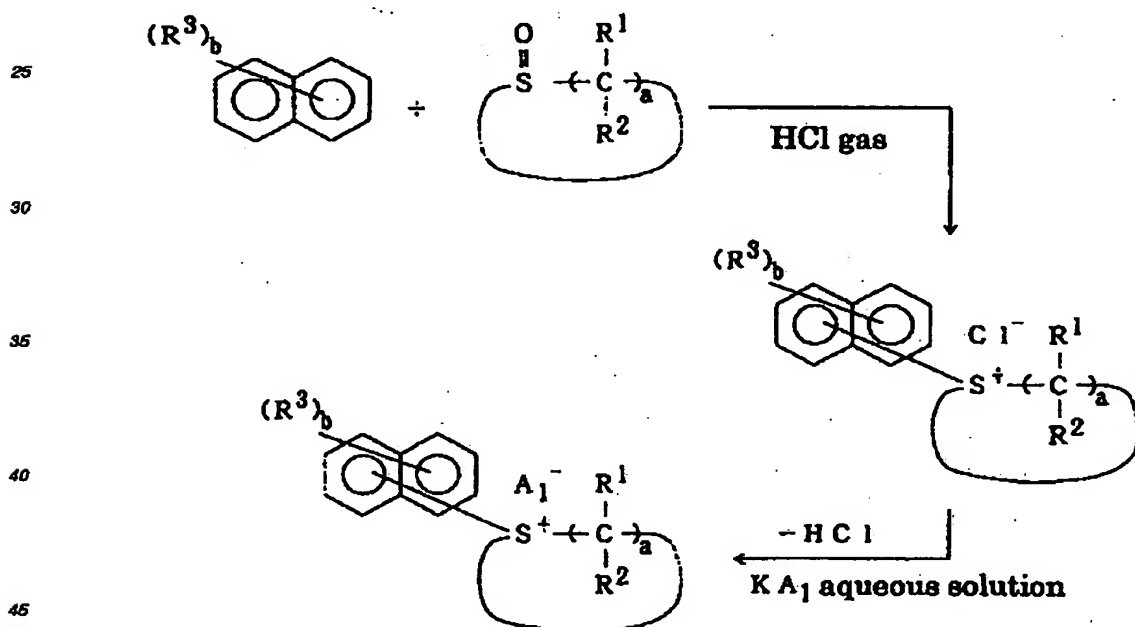
In formulas (1-1) and (1-2), as examples of the alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms represented by R^1 , R^2 , R^5 , or R^6 , methyl group, ethyl group, n-propyl group, i-propyl group, n-butyl group, i-butyl group, sec-butyl group, and t-butyl

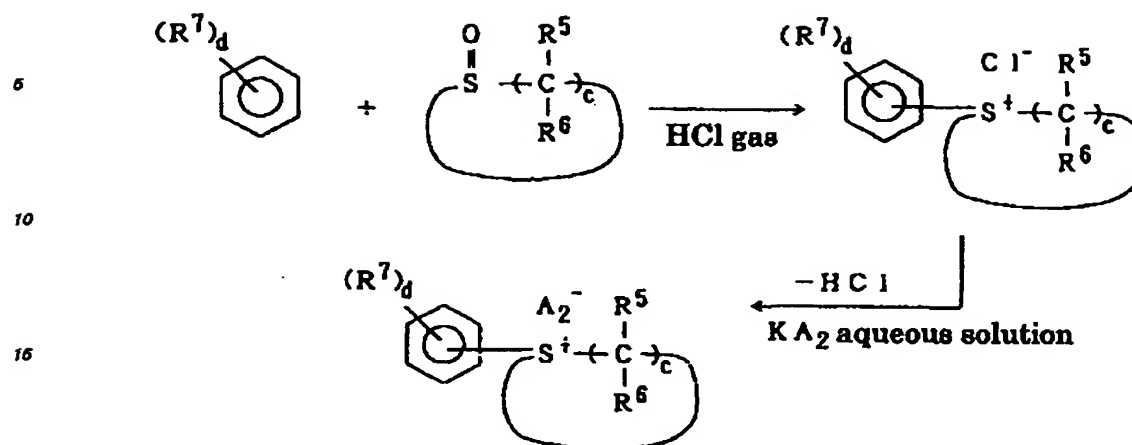
group can be given.

As examples of $-OR^4$ representing R^3 or R^7 representing $-OR^8$, alkoxyl groups such as methoxy group, ethoxy group, n-propoxy group, i-propoxy group, n-butoxy group, i-butoxy group, sec-butoxy group, and t-butoxy group; alkoxy-alkoxy groups such as methoxymethoxy group, ethoxymethoxy group, n-propoxymethoxy group, i-propoxymethoxy group, 1-methoxyethoxy group, 1-ethoxyethoxy group, 1-n-propoxyethoxy group, 1-i-propoxyethoxy group, 2-methoxyethoxy group, 2-ethoxyethoxy group, 2-n-propoxyethoxy group, 2-i-propoxyethoxy group, 1-methoxypropoxy group, 2-methoxypropoxy group, 3-methoxypropoxy group, 1-ethoxypropoxy group, 2-ethoxypropoxy group, and 3-ethoxypropoxy group; alkoxy carbonyloxy groups such as methoxycarbonyloxy group, ethoxycarbonyloxy group, n-propoxycarbonyloxy group, i-propoxycarbonyloxy group, n-butoxycarbonyloxy group, i-butoxycarbonyloxy group, sec-butoxycarbonyloxy group, and t-butoxycarbonyloxy group; cyclic acetal group such as 2-tetrahydrofuranyloxy group and 2-tetrahydropyranyloxy group; (substituted)benzyloxy groups such as benzyloxy group, o-methylbenzyloxy group, m-methylbenzyloxy group, p-methylbenzyloxy group, p-t-butylbenzyloxy group, and p-methoxybenzyloxy group; and alkoxy carbonylmethyl groups such as methoxycarbonylmethyl group, ethoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, i-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, i-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, sec-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, and t-butoxycarbonylmethyl group.

As examples of the monovalent anion represented by A_1^- or A_2^- , in addition to sulfonic acid anions originating from sulfonic acid such as trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, nonafluorobutanesulfonic acid, dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid, toluenesulfonic acid, naphthalenesulfonic acid, pyrenesulfonic acid, and camphorsulfonic acid, BF_4^- , F_6P^- , F_6As^- , F_6Sb^- , and ClO_4^- are given.

Such an acid generator (A) can be synthesized via reaction intermediates shown in the following formula according to the reactions shown by the following reaction formula.





The following compounds are given as specific examples of acid generator (A): salts of 4-substituted 1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium such as 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-ethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-n-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-t-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-n-propoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methoxymethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-ethoxymethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-(1-methoxyethoxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-(2-methoxyethoxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-ethoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-n-propoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-1-propoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-n-butoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-t-butoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-(2-tetrahydrofuryloxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-(2-tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-benzyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-n-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-t-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium camphorsulfonate, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium camphorsulfonate, 4-n-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium camphorsulfonate, 4-t-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium camphorsulfonate, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium hexafluoroantimonate, and 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium p-toluenesulfonate; salt of 5-substituted 1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium, such as 5-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-ethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-n-propoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-methoxymethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-(1-methoxyethoxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-(2-methoxyethoxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-methoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-ethoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-n-propoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-1-propoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-n-butoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-t-butoxycarbonyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-(2-tetrahydrofuryloxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-(2-tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-benzyloxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium hexafluoroantimonate, and 5-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium p-toluenesulfonate; salts of 6-substituted 1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium, such as 6-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 6-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 6-ethoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 6-n-propoxy-1-naphthyl-

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Of these acid generators (A), particularly preferred are 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-n-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-*t*-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium *n*-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium *n*-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, 4-*n*-butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium *n*-nonafluorobutanesulfonate, and 4-*t*-

butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate.

These compounds may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more as the acid generator (A) in the positive-tone or negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention.

Acid generators other than the acid generators (A) may be added to the positive tone or negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention inasmuch as the intended effects are not adversely affected.

Such other acid generators include, for example, ① onium salts, ② halogen-containing compounds, ③ diazoketone compounds, ④ sulfone compounds, and ⑤ sulfonic acid compounds.

The following compounds can be given as examples of such acid generators.

① Onium salt

As onium salts, iodonium salts, sulfonium salts, phosphonium salts, diazonium salts, and pyridinium salts can be given.

Specific examples of desirable onium salts include diphenyliodoniumtrifluoromethanesulfonate, diphenyliodonium pyrenesulfonate, diphenyliodonium dodecylbenzenesulfonate, bis(4-t-butylphenyl)iodonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, bis(4-t-butylphenyl)iodonium dodecylbenzenesulfonate, bis(4-t-butylphenyl)iodonium naphthalenesulfonate, bis(4-t-butylphenyl)iodonium hexafluoroantimonate, triphenylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, triphenylsulfonium hexafluoroantimonate, triphenylsulfonium naphthalenesulfonate, (hydroxyphenyl)benzenemethylsulfonium toluenesulfonate, 1-(naphthylacetomethyl)thiolanium trifluoromethanesulfonate, cyclohexylmethyl(2-oxocyclohexyl)sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, dicyclohexyl(2-oxocyclohexyl)sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, dimethyl(2-oxocyclohexyl)sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 1-naphthylidethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 1-naphthylid-n-propylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 1-naphthylid-1-propylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-cyano-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-nitro-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methyl-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-cyano-1-naphthylidethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-nitro-1-naphthylidethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-methyl-1-naphthylidethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 4-hydroxy-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 5-hydroxy-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, 6-hydroxy-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, and 7-hydroxy-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate.

② Halogen-containing compounds

As halogen-containing compound, for example, haloalkyl group-containing hydrocarbon compounds, and haloalkyl group-containing heterocyclic compounds can be given.

Given as specific examples of desirable halogen-containing compounds are 1,1-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2,2-trichloroethane, phenyl-bis(trichloromethyl)-s-triazine, methoxyphenyl-bis(trichloromethyl)-s-triazine, and naphthyl-bis(trichloromethyl)-s-triazine.

③ Diazoketone compounds

As diazoketone compounds, for example, 1,3-diketo-2-diazo compound, diazobenzoquinone compound, and diazonaphthoquinone compound can be given.

Specific examples of desirable diazoketones include 1,2-naphthoquinone diazido-4-sulfonyl chloride, 1,2-naphthoquinone diazido-4-sulfonate of 2,3,4,4'-tetrahydroxybenzophenone, and 1,2-naphthoquinone diazido-4-sulfonate of 1,1,1-tris(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane.

④ Sulfone compounds

Sulfone compounds include β -ketosulfone, β -sulfonylsulfone, and the like.

As specific examples of desirable sulfone compounds, 4-trisphenacylsulfone, mesitylphenacylsulfone, and bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane can be given.

⑤ Sulfonic acid compounds

Alkyl sulfonates, alkyl sulfonic acid imides, haloalkyl sulfonates, arylsulfonates, imidesulfonates, and the like can be given as examples of sulfonic acid compounds.

Specific examples of desirable sulfonic acid compounds include benzoinosylate, tris(trifluoromethane sulfonate) of pyrogallol, nitrobenzyl-9,10-diehoxyanthracene-2-sulfonate, trifluoromethane sulfonyl bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene-2,3-dicarboxylimide, n-hydroxysuccinimide trifluoromethanesulfonate, and 1,8-naphthalenedicarboxylimide trifluoromethanesulfonate.

anesulfonate.

Of these acid generators other than acid generators (A) (hereinafter called "the other acid generators"), particularly preferred are diphenyliodonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, bis(4-t-butylphenyl)iodonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, triphenylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, cyclohexylmethyl (2-oxocyclohexyl)sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, dicyclohexyl(2-oxocyclohexyl) sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, dimethyl(2-oxocyclohexyl)sulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate, trifluoromethanesulfonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-5-ene-2,3-dicarboximide, n-hydroxysuccinimide trifluoromethanesulfonate, 1,8-naphthalenedicarboximide trifluoromethanesulfonate, and 4-hydroxy-1-naphthylidimethylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate.

These other acid generators may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more. The amount of the other acid generators used in the positive tone or negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention is usually less than 20 parts by weight, preferably 10 parts by weight, and more preferably 8 parts by weight, for 100 parts by weight of the acid generator (A). If the amount of the other acid generators exceeds 20 parts by weight, transmissivity of radiation is small so that no sufficient amount of radiation reaches the lower part of a resist film when the composition is used as a resist. In the case of a positive tone resist, the resulting resist pattern tends to be tapered. In the case of a positive tone resist, the resist pattern tends to have an inverse triangular shape.

Acid-cleavable group-containing resin

The acid-cleavable group-containing resin used as the component (B1) in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention is a resin insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes soluble in alkali when the acid-cleavable group is cleaved. The following resin (I) and resin (II) can be given as examples of the acid-cleavable group containing resin.

The resin (I) has a structure wherein hydrogen atoms in acidic functional groups, such as phenolic hydroxyl group, naphtholic hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, or the like, in an alkali-soluble resin are replaced by at least one acid-cleavable group. The resin (I) is alkali insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali by itself.

The resin (II) is an acid-cleavable group-containing resin having an alicyclic structure in the main chain. The resin (II) is also alkali insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali by itself.

The term "insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali" is defined as the characteristics of a resin (an acid cleavable group-containing resin), in which at least 50% (in thickness) of the coating prepared from the resin remains undissolved when developed under the same alkaline developing conditions as the conditions under which resist patterns are formed on a resist coating made from a radiation sensitive resin composition containing the acid cleavable group-containing resin.

The resin (I) and resin (II) will now be described in detail.

Given as examples of the acid-cleavable group in the resin (I) (hereinafter called "acid-cleavable group (I)") are substituted methyl group, 1-substituted ethyl group, 1-branched alkyl group, silyl group, germyl group, alkoxy carbonyl group, acyl group, and cyclic acid-cleavable group.

Examples of the above substituted methyl group included methoxymethyl group, methylthiomethyl group, ethoxymethyl group, ethylthiomethyl group, methoxyethoxymethyl group, benzylloxymethyl group, benzylthiomethyl group, phenacyl group, bromophenacyl group, methoxyphenacyl group, methylthiophenacyl group, α -methylphenacyl group, cyclopropylmethyl group, benzyl group, diphenylmethyl group, triphenylmethyl group, bromobenzyl group, nitrobenzyl group, methoxybenzyl group, methylthiobenzyl group, ethoxybenzyl group, ethylthiobenzyl group, piperonyl group, methoxycarbonylmethyl group, ethoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, iso-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, and t-butoxycarbonylmethyl group.

Included in examples of the above-mentioned 1-substituted ethyl group are 1-methoxyethyl group, 1-methylthioethyl group, 1,1-dimethoxyethyl group, 1-ethoxyethyl group, 1-ethylthioethyl group, 1,1-diethoxyethyl group, 1-phenoxyethyl group, 1-phenylthioethyl group, 1,1-diphenoxyethyl group, 1-benzylloxyethyl group, 1-benzylthioethyl group, 1-cyclopropylethyl group, 1-phenylethyl group, 1,1-diphenylethyl group, 1-methoxycarbonylethyl group, 1-ethoxycarbonyl group, 1-n-propoxycarbonylethyl group, 1-iso-propoxycarbonylethyl group, 1-n-butoxycarbonylethyl group, and 1-t-butoxycarbonylethyl group.

Examples of the 1-branched alkyl group are isopropyl group, sec-butyl group, t-butyl group, 1,1-dimethylpropyl group, 1-methylbutyl group, and 1,1-dimethylbutyl group.

Examples of the above silyl group include trimethylsilyl group, ethyldimethylsilyl group, methyl-diethylsilyl group, triethylsilyl group, isopropyl-dimethylsilyl group, methyl-diisopropylsilyl group, tri-isopropylsilyl group, t-butyl-dimethylsilyl group, methyl-di-t-butylsilyl group, tri-t-butylsilyl group, phenyl-dimethylsilyl group, methyl-diphenylsilyl group, and triphenylsilyl group.

Examples of the above germyl group include trimethylgermyl group, ethyldimethylgermyl group, methyl-diethylgermyl group, triethylgermyl group, isopropyl-dimethylgermyl group, methyl-diisopropylgermyl group, triisopropylgermyl group, t-butyl-dimethylgermyl group, methyl-di-t-butylgermyl group, tri-t-butylgermyl group, phenyl-dimethylgermyl group,

methyldiphenylgermyl group, and triphenylgermyl group.

Methoxycarbonyl group, ethoxycarbonyl group, iso-propoxycarbonyl group, and t-butoxycarbonyl group are given as examples of the above alkoxycarbonyl group.

Given as examples of the foregoing acyl group are acetyl group, propionyl group, butyryl group, heptanoyl group, hexanoyl group, valeryl group, pivaloyl group, iso-valeryl group, lauryloyl group, myristoyl group, palmitoyl group, stearoyl group, oxalyl group, malonyl group, succinyl group, glutaryl group, adipoyl group, piperoyl group, suberoyl group, azelaoyl group, sebacoyl group, acryloyl group, propiyl group, methacryloyl group, crotonoyl group, oleoyl group, maleoyl group, fumaroyl group, mesaconoyl group, camphoroyl group, benzoyl group, phthaloyl group, isophthaloyl group, terephthaloyl group, naphthoyl group, toluoyl group, hydroatropoyl group, atropoyl group, cinnamoyl group, furoyl group, thenoyl group, nicotinoyl group, iso-nicotinoyl group, p-toluenesulfonyl group, and mesyl group.

Further, given as examples of the foregoing cyclic acid-cleavable group are groups having an alicyclic structure, such as cyclopropyl group, cyclopentyl group, cyclohexyl group, cyclohexenyl group, and 4-methoxycyclohexyl group. Tetrahydropyranyl group, tetrahydrofuranyl group, tetrahydrothiopyranyl group, tetrahydrothiofuranyl group, 3-bromotetrahydropyranyl group, 4-methoxytetrahydropyranyl group, 4-methoxytetrahydrothiopyranyl group, and 3-tetrahydrothiophene-1-dioxide group can also be given.

Of these acid-cleavable groups (i), particularly preferred are t-butyl group, t-butoxycarbonyl group, 1-methoxyethyl group, 1-ethoxyethyl group, 1-n-butoxyethyl group, tetrahydropyranyl group, methyltetrahydropyranyl group, tetrahydrofuranyl group, and methyltetrahydrofuranyl group.

The content of the acid-cleavable groups (i) in the resin (I) (i.e. the proportion of the number of acid-cleavable groups for the total number of the acidic functional groups and the acid-cleavable groups (i) in the acid-cleavable group containing resin) is preferably 5-100%, and more preferably 20-100% in addition. If the content of the acid-cleavable groups (i) is less than 5%, resolution of the resist tends to decrease.

The resin (I) can be manufactured by following methods.

(a) A method of introducing one or more acid-cleavable groups (i) into an alkali-soluble resin which has been manufactured in advance.

(b) A method of of subjecting one or more polymerizable unsaturated compound having one or more acid-cleavable groups (i) to (co)polymerization.

(c) A method of subjecting polycondensation components having one or more acid-cleavable groups (i) to (co)polycondensation.

As the alkali-soluble resin used in the above method (a), addition polymerization resins or polycondensation resins having one or more recurring unit which contains an acidic functional group can be given as an example.

Here, given as examples of the recurring units containing an acidic functional group in the addition polymerization type alkali-soluble resin are the units which can be produced by cleavage of a polymerizable unsaturated bond in a polymerizable unsaturated compound having an acidic functional group. Specific examples of such recurring units include: (α -methyl)styrene derivatives, such as o-hydroxystyrene, m-hydroxystyrene, p-hydroxystyrene, o-hydroxy- α -methylstyrene, m-hydroxy- α -methylstyrene, p-hydroxy- α -methylstyrene, p-carboxystyrene, p-carboxymethylstyrene, p-(2-carboxyethyl)styrene, p-carboxymethoxystyrene, p-(2-carboxyethoxy) styrene, and p-carboxymethylcarbonyloxystyrene, p-(2-carboxyethyl)carbonyloxystyrene; vinylnaphthalene derivatives or iso-propenylnaphthalene derivatives, such as 2-hydroxy-1-vinyl naphthalene, 3-hydroxy-1-vinyl naphthalene, 4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 5-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 6-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 7-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 8-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 2-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 3-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 4-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 5-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 6-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 7-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 8-hydroxy-1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 2-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 3-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 4-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 5-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 6-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, 7-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, and 8-carboxy-1-vinylnaphthalene; unsaturated carboxylic acids, such as (meth)acrylic acid, crotonic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, itaconic acid, citraconic acid, mesaconic acid, and cinnamic acid; carboxyl group-containing unsaturated carboxylic acid esters, such as 2-carboxyethyl(meth)acrylate, 2-carboxypropyl(meth)acrylate, 3-carboxypropyl (meth)acrylate, and 4-carboxybutyl(meth)acrylate.

Of these recurring units, the units produced by the cleavage of polymerizable unsaturated bonds, such as p-hydroxystyrene, p-hydroxy- α -methylstyrene, p-carboxystyrene, and (meth)acrylic acid are preferred.

The addition polymerization type alkali-soluble resin may be formed only of the recurring units having an acidic functional group, or may further comprise one or more other unit with a structure wherein a polymerizable unsaturated bond of other polymerizable unsaturated compound is cleaved, inasmuch as the resulting resin is alkali-soluble.

The following compounds can be given as examples of such other polymerizable unsaturated compounds: vinyl aromatic compounds, such as styrene, α -methylstyrene, 4-t-butylstyrene, 4-t-butyl- α -methylstyrene, 1-vinylnaphthalene, 4-methyl-1-vinylnaphthalene, 5-methyl-1-vinylnaphthalene, 1-iso-propenylnaphthalene, 4-chloro-1-vinylnaphthalene,

lene, 5-chloro-1-vinylnaphthalene, 4-methoxy-1-vinylnaphthalene, and 5-methoxy-1-vinylnaphthalene; (meth)acrylates, such as methyl(meth)acrylate, ethyl(meth)acrylate, n-propyl(meth)acrylate, n-butyl(meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate, and 3-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate; (meth)acrylates having an alicyclic structure in the ester group, such as norbornyl(meth)acrylate, isobornyl(meth)acrylate, tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate, dicyclopentenyl(meth)acrylate, and adamantyl(meth)acrylate; vinyl esters, such as vinyl acetate, vinyl propionate, and vinyl butyrate; and unsaturated nitrile compounds, such as (meth)acrylonitrile, α -chloroacrylonitrile, crotonitrile, maleinitril, fumaronitril, mesaconitrile, citraconitrile, and itaconitrile; unsaturated amide compounds, such as (meth)acrylamide, N,N-dimethyl(meth)acrylamide, crotonamide, maleinamide, fumaramide, mesaconamide, citraconamide, and itaconamide; nitrogen-containing vinyl compounds, such as N-vinyl- ϵ -caprolactam, N-vinylpyrrolidone, vinylpyridine, and vinylimidazole.

Of these other polymerizable unsaturated compounds, particularly preferred are styrene, α -methylstyrene, methyl(meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl(meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate, and (meth)acrylates having an alicyclic structure in the ester group, such as isobornyl(meth)acrylate, tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate, dicyclopentenyl(meth)acrylate, and adamantyl(meth)acrylate.

The above-described polycondensation type alkali-soluble resins can be prepared by the polycondensation of one or more phenol compound, one or more aldehyde compound, and, optionally, other polycondensation components which can form other recurring unit, in an aqueous medium or in a mixture of water and a hydrophilic solvent in the presence of an acidic catalyst.

As examples of the phenol compounds used in the polycondensation, o-cresol, m-cresol, p-cresol, 2,3-xyleneol, 2,4-xyleneol, 2,5-xyleneol, 3,4-xyleneol, 3,5-xyleneol, 2,3,5-trimethylphenol, 3,4,5-trimethylphenol, resorcinol, catechol, pyrogallol, 1-naphthol, and 2-naphthol can be given. As examples of the aldehyde compounds, formaldehyde, trioxane, paraformaldehyde, benzaldehyde, acetaldehyde, propylaldehyde, and phenylacetaldehyde can be given.

Because the content of the recurring units having an acidic functional group in the addition polymerization alkali-soluble resin or the polycondensation type alkali-soluble resin is varied according to the type of the recurring unit and other recurring units used, such a content cannot be generically specified. Usually, a content of 10-100 mol% is preferable, with more preferable content being 15-100 mol%.

As examples of the polymerizable unsaturated compound having the acid-cleavable group (i) which is used in the method (b), the compounds with the hydrogen atoms in acidic functional groups in the polymerizable unsaturated compounds illustrated in the above method (a) substituted by the acid-cleavable group (i) can be given. As examples of the polycondensation component having an acid-cleavable group (i) used in the above method (c), in addition to aldehyde compounds, the compounds with the hydrogen atoms in phenolic hydroxyl in the phenol compounds illustrated in connection with the method (a) substituted by an acid-cleavable group (i) can be given.

In the method (b) or method (c) also it is possible to use other polymerizable unsaturated compounds or other polycondensation components than the polymerizable unsaturated compound having an acid-cleavable group (i) or the polycondensation component having an acid-cleavable group (i) in an amount not exceeding 60 wt%, preferably in an amount of 50 wt% or less.

The polymerization for producing the addition polymerization type alkali-soluble resin according to the method (a) or the polymerization according to the method (b) can be carried out by means of bulk polymerization, solution polymerization, precipitation polymerization, emulsion polymerization, suspension polymerization, bulk-suspension polymerization in the presence of a suitably selected catalyst such as a radical polymerization initiator, anionic polymerization catalyst, conjugated anionic polymerization catalyst, and cationic polymerization catalyst.

The following resins can be given as desirable resin (i) used in the positive tone radiation curable resin composition of the present invention.

Styrene-containing resins, such as 4-t-butoxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, 4-t-butoxycarbonyloxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, 4-(1-ethoxyethoxy)styrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, 4-(1-n-butoxyethoxy)styrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, and 4-tetrahydropyranyloxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, 4-methyltetrahydropyranyloxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, 4-tetrahydrofuranyloxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer, and 4-methyltetrahydrofuranyloxystyrene/4-hydroxystyrene copolymer; vinylnaphthalene type resins, such as 4-t-butoxy-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, 4-t-butoxycarbonyloxy-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, 4-(1-ethoxyethoxy)-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, 4-(1-n-butoxyethoxy)-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, 4-tetrahydropyranyloxy-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, 4-methyltetrahydropyranyloxy-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer, and 4-methyltetrahydrofuranyloxy-1-vinylnaphthalene/4-hydroxy-1-vinylnaphthalene copolymer; (meth)acrylate-type resins, such as t-butyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, t-butoxycarbonyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, 1-ethoxyethyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, 1-butoxyethyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, tetrahydropyranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, and 4-methyltetrahydrofuranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer.

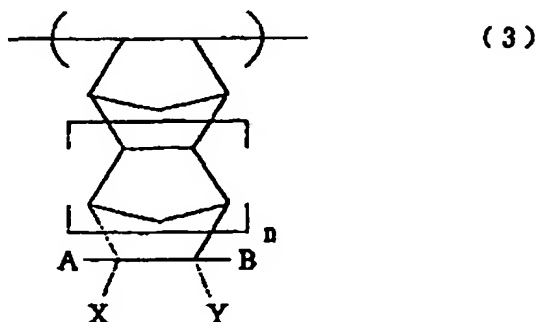
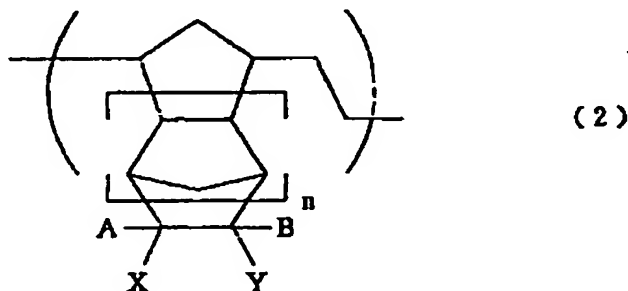
ylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, methyltetrahydropyranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, tetrahydrofuranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, methyltetrahydrofuranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid copolymer, t-butyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer,

5 butoxycarbonyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate /2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, 1-ethoxyethyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, 1-butoxyethyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl(meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, tetrahydropyranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/ 2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, methyltetrahydropyranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, tetrahydrofuranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer, and methyltetrahydrofuranyl(meth)acrylate/tricyclodecanyl (meth)acrylate/2-hydroxypropyl(meth)acrylate copolymer;

In the resin (II), the alicyclic structure may be either monocyclic structure originating from cycloalkanes or polycyclic structure originating from bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane, tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodecane, or the like.

15 Although the acid-cleavable groups in the resin (II) may be present at any optional position, it is desirable that these groups be on the alicyclic structure. This alicyclic structure may have one or more substituted groups other than the acid-cleavable groups, such as, for example, a halogen atom, hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms, and halogenated hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms.

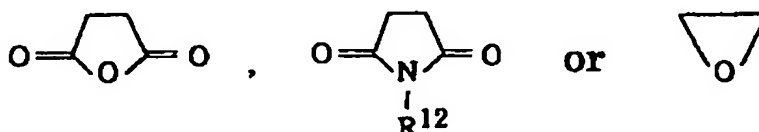
The resins having at least one recurring unit of the following formulas (2) or (3) are desirable as the resin (II).



50 wherein n is 0 or 1; A and B individually represent a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms, or halogenated hydrocarbon groups having 1-10 carbon atoms; and X and Y individually represent a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms, halogenated hydrocarbon groups having 1-10 carbon atoms, or acid-cleavable group, provided that at least one of X and Y an acid-cleavable group.

55 Preferred groups for the acid-cleavable groups in the formulas (2) and (3) (hereinafter referred to as "acid-cleavable group (II)") are the groups represented by $-R^9COOR^{10}$, $-R^9OCOR^{11}$, or $-R^9CN$, wherein R^9 indicates $-(CH_2)_l$, l is an integer of 0-4, R^{10} represents a hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms, halogenated hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms, tetrahydrofuranyl group, tetrahydropyranyl group, carbobutoxymethyl group, carbobutoxyethyl group, carbobutoxypropyl group, or trialkylsilyl group (wherein the alkyl group has a carbon atom content of 1-4), and

R¹¹ denotes a hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms or halogenated hydrocarbon group having 1-10 carbon atoms; or a heterocyclic structure containing oxygen or nitrogen atom wherein X and Y together bond with carbon atoms in the alicyclic structure to form a structure of the following formula:



wherein R¹² is a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, alkyl group having 1-8 carbon atoms, or a group -SO₂R¹³ (wherein R¹³ is an alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms or a halogenated alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms).

The following groups can be given as examples of the group -R⁹COOR¹⁰ in the acid-cleavable group (II):

15 (cyclo)alkoxycarbonyl groups, such as methoxycarbonyl group, ethoxycarbonyl group, n-propoxycarbonyl group, i-propoxycarbonyl group, n-butoxycarbonyl group, 2-methylpropoxycarbonyl group, 1-methylpropoxycarbonyl group, t-butoxycarbonyl group, n-pentoxycarbonyl group, n-hexoxycarbonyl group, n-heptoxycarbonyl group, n-octoxycarbonyl group, n-decylloxycarbonyl group; cycloalkoxycarbonyl groups such as cyclopentylloxycarbonyl group, cyclohexylloxycarbonyl group, 4-t-butylcyclohexylloxycarbonyl group, and cycloheptyloxycarbonyl group; arylloxycarbonyl groups such as phenoxy-

20 carbonyl group, 4-t-butylphenoxycarbonyl group, 1-naphthylloxycarbonyl group, aralkylloxycarbonyl group; aralkylloxycarbonyl groups such as benzylloxycarbonyl group and 4-t-butylbenzylloxycarbonyl group; (cyclo)alkoxycarbonylmethyl groups such as methoxycarbonylmethyl group, ethoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, iso-propoxycarbonylmethyl group, n-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, 2-methylpropoxycarbonylmethyl group, 1-methylpropoxycarbonylmethyl group, t-butoxycarbonylmethyl group, and cyclohexylloxycarbonylmethyl group, and 4-t-butylcyclohexylloxycarbonylmethyl group; arylloxycarbonylmethyl groups such as phenoxycarbonylmethyl group and 1-naphthylloxycarbonylmethyl group; aralkylloxycarbonylmethyl groups such as benzylloxycarbonylmethyl group and 4-t-butylbenzylloxycarbonylmethyl group; (cyclo)alkoxycarbonylethyl groups such as 2-methoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-ethoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-n-propoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-iso-propoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-n-butoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-(2-methylpropoxy)carbonylethyl group, 2-(1-methylpropoxy)carbonylethyl group, 2-t-butoxycarbonylethyl group, 2-cyclohexylloxycarbonylethyl group, and 2-(4-t-butylcyclohexylloxycarbonyl)ethyl group; 2-arylloxycarbonylethyl group such as 2-phenoxy-

25 carbonylethyl group and 2-(1-naphthylloxycarbonyl)ethyl group; and 2-aralkylloxycarbonylethyl groups such as 2-benzylloxycarbonylethyl group and 2-(4-t-butylbenzylloxycarbonyl)ethyl group.

Given as examples of the group -R⁹OCOR¹¹ are (cyclo)acyloxy groups such as acetyloxy group, propionyloxy group, butyryloxy group, valeryloxy group, caproyloxy group, heptanoyloxy group, octanoyloxy group, nonanoyloxy group, decanoyloxy group, undecanoyloxy group, cyclohexylcarbonyloxy group, and 4-t-butylcyclohexylcarbonyloxy group; arylcarbonyloxy groups such as benzoyloxy group, 4-t-butylbenzoyloxy group, and 1-naphthoyloxy group; aralkylcarbonyloxy groups such as benzylcarbonyloxy group and 4-t-butylbenzylcarbonyloxy group; (cyclo)acyloxymethyl groups such as acetyloxycarbonylmethyl group, propionyloxycarbonylmethyl group, butyryloxycarbonylmethyl group, cyclohexylcarbonyloxymethyl group, and 4-t-butylcyclohexylcarbonyloxymethyl group; arylcarbonyloxymethyl groups such as benzoyloxymethyl group and 1-naphthoyloxymethyl group; aralkylcarbonyloxymethyl groups such as benzylcarbonyloxymethyl group and 4-t-butylbenzylcarbonyloxymethyl group; 2-(cyclo)acyloxyethyl groups such as 2-acetyloxyethyl group, 2-propionyloxyethyl group, 2-butyryloxyethyl group, 2-cyclohexylcarbonyloxyethyl group, and 2-(4-t-butylcyclohexylcarbonyloxy)ethyl group; 2-arylcarbonyloxyethyl group such as 2-benzoyloxyethyl group and 2-(1-naphthoyloxy)ethyl group; and 2-aralkylcarbonyloxyethyl groups such as 2-benzylcarbonyloxyethyl group and 2-(4-t-butylbenzylcarbonyloxy)ethyl group.

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As examples of -R⁹CN, cyano group, cyanomethyl group, 2-cyanoethyl group, 2-cyanopropyl group, 3-cyanopropyl group, and 4-cyanobutyl group can be given.

Among these acid-cleavable groups (II), preferred groups are those represented by the formula -R⁹COOR¹⁰, and the groups represented by the formula -COOR¹⁰, specifically, methoxycarbonyl group, t-butoxycarbonyl group, tetrahydropyran-2-ylloxycarbonyl group, and dicarboxy anhydride group, are ideal.

50

Describing the groups represented by A, B, X, or Y in the formula (2) or (3), F, Cl, Br, and I can be given as examples of halogen atoms. Given as examples of the monovalent hydrocarbon group containing 1-10 carbon atoms are alkyl groups such as methyl group, ethyl group, n-propyl group, isopropyl group, n-butyl group, 2-methylpropyl group, 1-methylpropyl group, t-butyl group, n-hexyl group, n-octyl group, and n-decyl group; (cyclo)alkyl groups such as cyclopentyl group, cyclohexyl group, cycloheptyl group, and cyclooctyl group; aryl groups such as phenyl group, 4-t-butylphenyl group, 1-naphthyl group; and aralkyl groups such as benzyl group, and 4-t-butylbenzyl group. Halogenated derivatives of these monovalent hydrocarbon groups having 1-10 carbon atoms can be given as examples of the monovalent halogenated hydrocarbon groups containing 1-10 carbon atoms.

55

The resin (II) can be manufactured by any one of the following methods (d) to (h).

(d) A method of subjecting a norbornene derivative containing the acid-cleavable group (i) corresponding to the recurring unit shown by the formula (2) or formula (3) (these derivatives are hereinafter collectively called "norbornene derivatives (α)"), optionally, together with other copolymerizable unsaturated alicyclic compounds, to ring-opening (co)polymerization.

(e) A method of subjecting a norbornene derivative (α) and a copolymerizable unsaturated compound such as, ethylene, maleic anhydride, or the like, to a radical copolymerization reaction.

(f) A method of subjecting the resin obtained by the method (e) or (f) to partial hydrolysis and/or solvolysis according to a conventional manner.

(g) A method of introducing the acid-cleavable group (ii) into at least a part of the acidic functional groups in the resin obtained by the method (f) according to a conventional manner.

(h) A method of polymerizing acidic functional group-containing norbornene derivatives obtained by cleavage of the acid-cleavable group (ii) in the norbornene derivatives containing the acid-cleavable group (ii) corresponding to the recurring unit shown by the formula (2) or formula (3) (these acidic functional group-containing norbornene derivatives are hereinafter collectively called "norbornene derivatives (β)") to a ring-opening (co)polymerization or radical copolymerization, and introducing the acid-cleavable group (i) into at least a part of the acidic functional groups of the resulting (co)polymer according to a conventional manner.

The following compounds are enumerated as examples of the norbornene derivatives (α):

- 5-methoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-ethoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-n-propoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-i-propoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-n-butoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-t-butoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-cyclohexyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-(4'-t-butylcyclohexyloxy)carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-phenoxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-tetrahydrofuranyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-tetrahydropyranyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-acetyloxybicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-cyanobicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-methoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-ethoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-n-propoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-i-propoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-n-butoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-t-butoxycarbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-cyclohexyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-(4'-t-butylcyclohexyloxy)carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-phenoxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-tetrahydrofuranyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5-methyl-5-tetrahydropyranyloxy carbonylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 5,6-dicarboxyanhydridebicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene,
- 8-methoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-ethoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-n-propoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-i-propoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-n-butoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-t-butoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-cyclohexyloxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-(4'-t-butylcyclohexyloxy)carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-phenoxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-tetrahydrofuranyloxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-tetrahydropyranyloxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-methyl-8-methoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,
- 8-methyl-8-ethoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodeca-3-ene,

- 8-methyl-8-n-propoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-i-propoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-n-butoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-t-butoxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-cyclohexyloxycarbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-(4'-t-butylcyclohexyloxy)carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-phenoxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene,
 8-methyl-8-tetrahydrofuryloxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] 3-dodecene,
 8-methyl-8-tetrahydropyraniloxy carbonyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] 3-dodecene, and
 8,9-dicarboxyanhydridetetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene.

These norbornene derivatives (α) may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

- The following compounds can be given as examples of the other unsaturation alicyclic compounds which can copolymerize with the norbornene derivatives (α) by ring-opening: bicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene, bicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene-5-carboxylic acid, 5-methylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene-5-carboxylic acid, 5-methylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene, 5-ethylbicyclo[2.2.1]hepto-2-ene, tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-methyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-ethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene-8-carboxylic acid, 8-methyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene-8-carboxylic acid, 8-fluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-fluoromethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-difluoromethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-trifluoromethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-pentafluoroethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8-difluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-difluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-methyl-8-trifluoromethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9-trifluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9-tris(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9,9-tetrafluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9,9-tetrakis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8-difluoro-9,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-difluoro-8,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9-trifluoro-9-trifluoro-methyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9-trifluoro-9-trifluoromethoxytetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,8,9-trifluoro-8-pentafluoropropoxytetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-fluoro-8-pentafluoroethyl-9,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-difluoro-8-heptafluoroisopropyl-9-trifluoromethyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-chloro-8,9,9-trifluorotetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-dichloro-8,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-(2,2,2-trifluorocarboxyethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8,9-dichloro-8,9-bis(trifluoromethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-(2,2,2-trifluorocarboxyethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, tetrakis-8-methyl-8-(2,2,2-trifluorocarboxyethyl)tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}] dodeca-3-ene, cyclobutene, cyclopentene, cyclooctene, 1,5-cyclooctadiene, 1,5,9-cyclododecatriene, norbornene, 5-ethylidenenorbornene, 5-methylnorbornene, dicyclopentadiene, tricyclo[5.2.1.0^{2,6}] detective-8-ene, tricyclo[5.2.1.0^{2,6}] detective-3-ene, tricyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,6}] undeca-8-ene, tricyclo[6.2.1.0^{1,8}] undeca-8-ene, tricyclo[6.2.1.0^{1,8}] undeca-4-ene, tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}.0^{1,6}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-methyltetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}.0^{1,6}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-ethylidenetetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,12}] dodeca-3-ene, 8-ethylidenetetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}.0^{1,6}] dodeca-3-ene, pentacyclo[6.5.1.1^{3,6}.0^{2,7}.0^{9,13}] pentadetective-4-ene, and pentacyclo[7.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{9,12}.0^{8,13}] pentadeca-3-ene.

These other unsaturated alicyclic compound may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The content of the recurring units originating from these other unsaturated alicyclic compounds in the resin (II) is usually 50 mol% or less, preferably 30 mol% or less, and more preferably 30 mol% or less, in all recurring units in the resin (II).

- As norbornene derivatives (β), the compounds with the ester group in the above-described norbornene derivatives (α) converted into a carboxyl group can be given.

- The ring-opening (co)polymerization in the above method (d) can be carried out, for example, using a metathesis catalyst and, as required, an activation agent (for example, a boron compound, silicon compound, alcohol, or water) in the presence of a molecular weight modifier (for example, α-olefins, α,ω-diolefins, vinyl aromatic compounds) in an appropriate solvent.

- The metathesis catalyst used here comprises the combination of at least one compound selected from tungsten compounds, molybdenum compounds, and rhenium compounds (hereinafter referred to as "specific transition metal compounds") and at least one compound of a metal selected from IA, IIA, IIIA, IVA, or IVB in Deming's Periodic Table and having a metal-carbon bond or a metal-hydrogen bond in the molecule (hereinafter referred to as "specific organo-metallic compound").

Given as examples of the specific transition metal compounds are WCl₆, WCl₅, WCl₄, WCl₃, WBr₆, WF₆, WI₆, MoCl₅, MoCl₄, MoCl₃, ReOCl₃, WOCl₄, WOCl₃, WOB₃, MoOC₃, MoOB₃, ReOCl₃, ReOB₃, WCl₂(OC₂H₅)₄, W(OC₂H₅)₆, MoCl₃(OC₂H₅)₂, Mo(OC₂H₅)₅, WO₂(acac)₂ (wherein acac represents an acetylacetonate residue),

$\text{MoO}_2(\text{acac})_2$, $\text{W}(\text{OCOR})_5$ (wherein OCOR stands for a carboxylic acid residue), $\text{Mo}(\text{OCOR})_5$, $\text{W}(\text{CO})_6$, $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6$, $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$, $\text{WCl}_5 \cdot \text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3$, $\text{MoCl}_5 \cdot \text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3$, $\text{ReOBr}_3 \cdot \text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3$, $\text{WCl}_6 \cdot \text{NC}_5\text{H}_5$, $\text{W}(\text{CO})_5 \cdot \text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3$, and $\text{W}(\text{CO})_3 \cdot (\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_3$.

These specific transition metal compounds may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

Given as examples of the specific organometallic compounds are $n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{Li}$, $n\text{-C}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{Na}$, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Na}$, CH_3MgI , $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{MgBr}$, CH_3MgBr , $n\text{-C}_3\text{H}_7\text{MgCl}$, $t\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{MgCl}$, $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCH}_2\text{MgCl}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{Zn}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{Cd}$, $\text{CaZn}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_4$, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{B}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{B}$, $(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_3\text{B}$, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Al}$, $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AlCl}$, CH_3AlCl_2 , $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Al}_2\text{Cl}_3$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{Al}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{Al}_2\text{Cl}_3$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{Al} \cdot \text{O}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{AlCl}$, $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{AlCl}_2$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{AlH}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{AlOC}_2\text{H}_5$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{AlCN}$, $\text{LiAl}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2$, $(n\text{-C}_3\text{H}_7)_3\text{Al}$, $(i\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_3\text{Al}$, $(i\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_2\text{AlH}$, $(n\text{-C}_6\text{H}_{13})_3\text{Al}$, $(n\text{-C}_8\text{H}_{17})_3\text{Al}$, $(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3\text{Al}$, $(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{Ga}$, $(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{Sn}$, $(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{Sn}$, $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{SnH}$, LiH , NaH , B_2H_6 , NaBH_4 , AlH_3 , LiAlH_4 , and TiH_4 .

These specific organometallic compounds may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The radical copolymerisation in the above method (e) can be carried out using a radical polymerization catalyst such as, for example, a hydroperoxide, dialkylperoxide, diacylperoxide, or azo compound, in a suitable solvent.

The ring-opening (co)polymerization or radical copolymerization in the above method (h) can be also carried out according to the same manner as in the above methods (d) or (e).

For ensuring transparency to radiation, a resin containing only a minimal amount of carbon-carbon unsaturated bonds is desirable as the resin (II). Such a resin can be obtained by effecting a hydrogenation reaction, hydration reaction, halogenation reaction, halogenation-hydrogenation reaction at any appropriate step in the ring-opening (co)polymerization according to the above method (d) or (f) or following the completion of the method (d) or (f). A resin obtained by effecting a hydrogenation reaction is particularly preferred as the resin (II). The resin obtained by the radical (co)polymerization according to the above method (e) or (h) does not substantially contain a carbon-carbon unsaturated bond.

The degree of the hydrogenation in the hydrogenated resin (II) obtained in this manner is 70% or more, preferably 90% or more, and particularly preferably 100% or more.

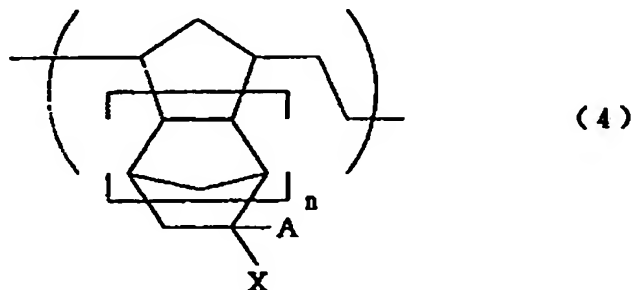
The polystyrene reduced weight molecular weight (hereinafter abbreviated as "Mw") of the acid-cleavable group-containing resin measured by gel permeation chromatography is usually from 1,000 to 300,000, preferably from 3,00 to 200,000, particularly preferably from 5,000 to 100,000.

The acid-cleavable group-containing resin may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention.

The acid-cleavable group-containing resin has characteristics of controlling the alkali solubility of the alkali-soluble resin. Specifically, the resin decomposes in the presence of an acid to decrease or kill, or accelerate the effect of controlling alkali solubility of the alkali-soluble resin. In this respect the acid-cleavable group-containing resin falls under the definition of the alkali solubility control agent of the component (B2) of the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention.

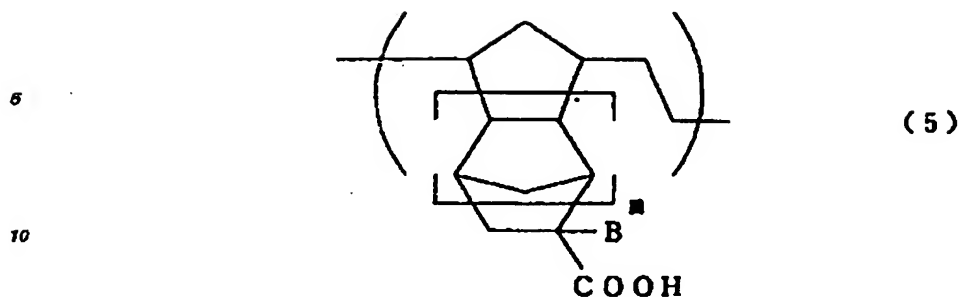
The following resin (II-1), resin (II-2), and resin (II-3) are particularly desirable as the resin (II).

Specifically, the resin (II-1) is a resin containing the recurring unit shown by the following formula (4):



wherein n and A are the same as defined for the formulas (2) and (3), and X represents an acid-cleavable group.

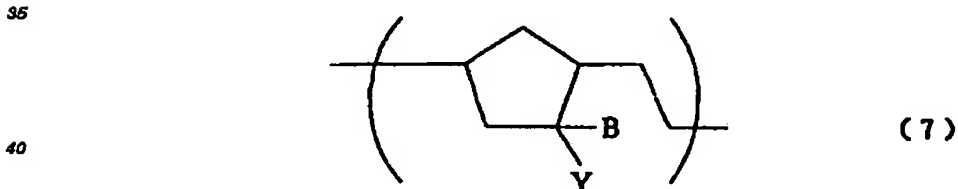
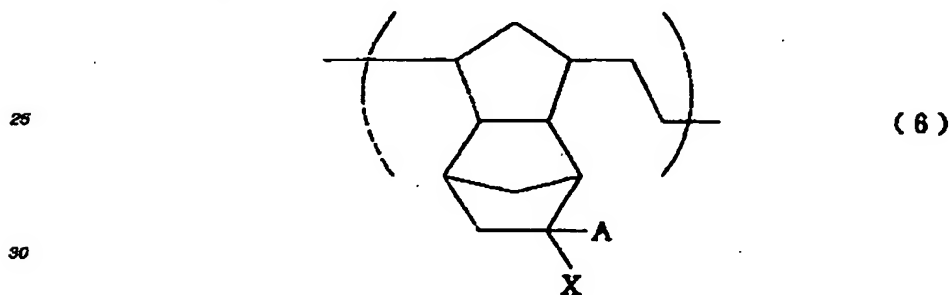
The resin (II-2) is a random copolymer containing the recurring unit shown by the above formula (4) and the recurring unit shown by the following formula (5):



15 wherein B is the same as defined for the formulas (2) and (3), and m is 0 or 1.

The molar ratio of the recurring units of the formulas (4) and (5) in the resin (II-2) is usually 20:80 to 95:5, and preferably 30:70 to 80:10.

The resin (II-3) is a random copolymer containing the recurring unit shown by the following formula (6) and, optionally, the recurring unit shown by the following formula (7):



45 wherein A, B, X, and Y are respectively the same as defined for the formulas (2) and (3).

The molar ratio of the recurring units of the formulas (6) and (7) in the resin (II-3) is usually 5:95 to 100:0, and preferably 10:90 to 90:10.

Alkali-soluble resin

50 The alkali-soluble resin used in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition as the component (B2) and in the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition is a resin soluble in an alkaline developing solution. This resin contains at least one acidic functional group which exhibits affinity to the alkaline developing solution, such as a phenolic hydroxyl group, naphtholic hydroxyl group, or carboxyl group. The addition polymerization resins or polycondensation resins given as the above resin (I) or the resins in which the acid-cleavable groups have cleaved given as the

55 above resin (II) are included as examples of such an alkali-soluble resin, can be given. Although the Mw of the alkali-soluble resin varies according to the characteristics desired for the radiation sensitive resin composition, the Mw in the range of 1,000-150,000, preferably 3,000-100,000, is applicable.

The alkali-soluble resin containing carbon-carbon unsaturated bonds can be used after hydrogenation. The degree

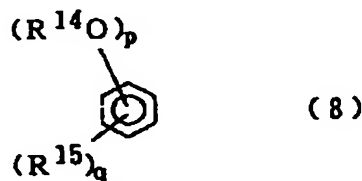
of hydrogenation is usually 70% or less, preferably 50% or less, and more preferably 40% or less. If the degree of hydrogenation exceeds 70%, developing performance of the alkali-soluble resin using an alkaline developing solution may decrease. The alkali-soluble resins may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more in the positive tone or negative tone radiation sensitive resin compositions of the present invention. In addition, the alkali-soluble resin may also be used when an acid-cleavable group-containing resin is used the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition

Alkali solubility control agent

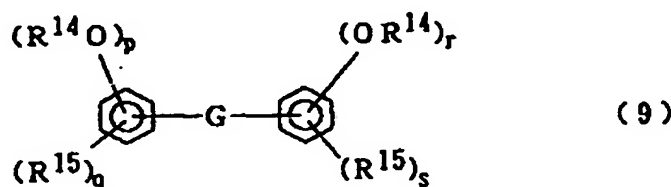
The compounds containing an acidic functional group, such as a phenolic hydroxyl group or carboxyl group, with at least one substitution group which can be cleaved in the presence of an acid (hereinafter called "acid-cleavable substituent") introduced therein can be given as the alkali solubility control agent used as the component (B2) in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition.

The same acid-cleavable groups (I) previously given for the resin (I), such as substituted methyl groups, 1-substituted ethyl groups, silyl groups, 1-branched alkyl groups, germyl groups, alkoxy carbonyl groups, acyl groups, and cyclic acid-cleavable groups, are given as examples of such acid cleavable groups.

The alkali solubility control agent may be either a high molecular compound or a low molecular compound. The compounds of the following formulas (8)-(12) are given as specific examples of the low molecular compound.



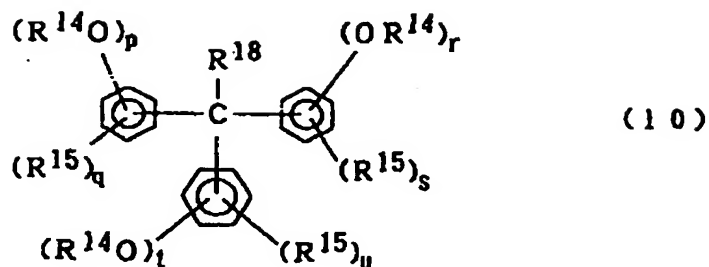
wherein R^{14} indicates a substituted methyl group, 1-substituted ethyl group, 1-branched alkyl group, silyl group, germyl group, alkoxy carbonyl group, acyl group, or cyclic acid-cleavable group, with a plurality of R^{14} s being either the same or different from each other, R^{15} indicates an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, a phenyl group, or 1-naphthyl group, with a plurality of R^{15} s being either the same or different from each other, p is an integer of 1 or more and q is an integer of 0 or more, provided that $p+q \leq 6$.



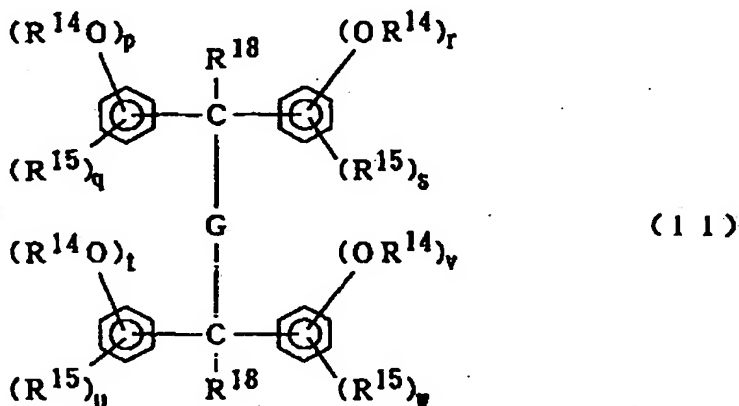
wherein R^{14} and R^{15} are the same as defined in the formula (8) and G represents a single bond, $-S-$, $-O-$, $-Co-$, $-COO-$, $-SO-$, $-SO_2-$, $-C(R^{16})(R^{17})-$ (wherein R^{16} and R^{17} may be either the same or different and each individually represents a hydrogen atom, alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl group having 2-11 carbon atoms, phenyl group, or naphthyl group), or a group,



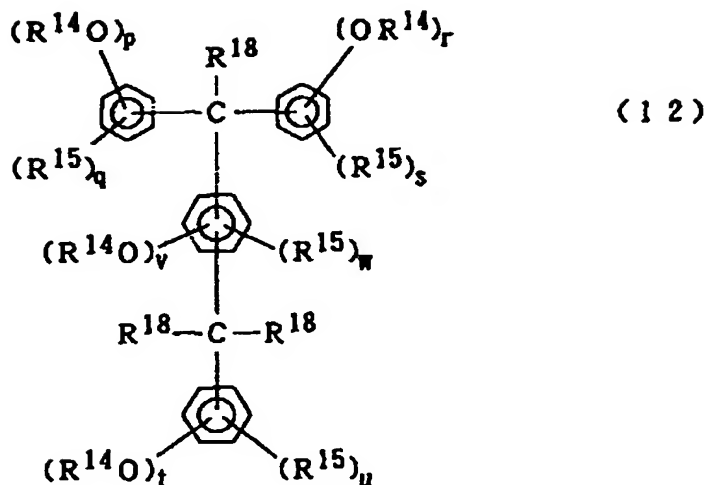
(wherein R^{15} is the same as defined above and x is an integer of 0-4), p , q , r and s are respectively an integer of 0 or more, provided that $p+q \leq 5$, $r+s \leq 5$, and $p+r \geq 1$.



15 wherein R^{14} and R^{15} are the same as defined in the formula (8), R^{18} indicates a hydrogen atom, alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms, or phenyl group, and p, q, r, s, t and u are respectively an integer of 0 or more, provided that $p+q \leq 5$, $r+s \leq 5$, and $t+u \leq 5$, $p+r+t \geq 1$.



40 wherein R^{14} and R^{15} are the same as defined in the formula (8), G is the same as defined in the formula (9), R^{18} is the same as defined in the formula (10), with a plurality of R^{18} s being either the same or different from each other, and p, q, r, s, t, u, v and w are respectively an integer of 0 or more, provided $p+q \leq 5$, $r+s \leq 5$, $t+u \leq 5$, $v+w \leq 5$, and $p+r+t+v \geq 1$.



wherein R^{14} and R^{15} are the same as defined in the formula (8), R^{18} is the same as defined in the formula (10), with a plurality of R^{18} s being either the same or different from each other, and p, q, r, s, t, u, v and w are respectively an integer of 0 or more, provided $p+q \leq 5$, $r+s \leq 5$, $t+u \leq 5$, $v+w \leq 5$, and $p+r+t+v \geq 1$.

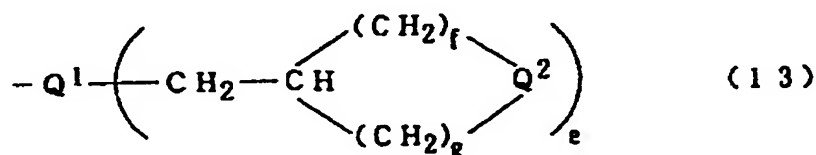
As the high molecular weight alkali solubility control agent, the above-described acid-cleavable group-containing resins can be used, for example.

In the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition, either the low molecular compounds or the high molecular weight compounds (ie. the acid-cleavable group-containing resins) may be used individually or in combinations of two or more as the alkali solubility control agent. A combination of a low molecular compound and a high molecular weight compound is also acceptable.

Crosslinking agents

The crosslinking agent used in the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention is a compound which can cause the alkali-soluble resin to cross-link in the presence of an acid, for example, an acid produced on being irradiated. As such a crosslinking agent, a compound having at least one substituted group exhibiting cross-linking reactivity with the alkali-soluble resin can be given, for example (such a substituted group is hereinafter called "cross-linking substituent").

The groups represented by the following formulas (13)-(17) can be given as examples of the cross-linking substituent in the crosslinking agent.



wherein e is an integer of 1 or 2; Q^1 represents a single bond, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-COO-$, or $-NH-$, when $e=1$, or a trivalent nitrogen atom when $e=2$, Q^2 indicates $-O-$ or $-S-$, f an integer of 0-3, and g is an integer of 1-3, provided $f+g=1-4$.



wherein Q^3 is a group $-O-$, $-COO-$, or $-CO-$, R^{19} and R^{20} individually represent a hydrogen atoms or alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms, R^{21} denotes an alkyl group with 1-5 carbon atoms, aryl group with 6-12 carbon atoms, or aralkyl group with 7-14 carbon atoms, and h is an integer of 1 or more.



wherein R²², R²³, and R²⁴ individually represent a hydrogen atom or alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms.



wherein R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are the same as defined in the formula (14), R²⁵ and R²⁶ individually represents an alkylol group having 1-5 carbon atoms and h is an integer of 1 or more.



wherein R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are the same as defined in the formula (14), R²⁷ is a 3-8 member divalent organic ring having containing a hetero atom selected from oxygen atom, sulphur atom, and nitrogen atom and d is an integer of 1 or more.

Specific examples of such cross-linking substituents include glycidyl ether group, glycidyl ester group, glycidylamino group, methoxymethyl group, ethoxymethyl group, benzyloxymethyl group, dimethylaminomethyl group, diethylaminomethyl group, dimethylolaminomethyl group, dimethylolaminomethyl group, morpholinomethyl group, acetoxymethyl group, benzyloxymethyl group, formyl group, acetyl group, vinyl group, and iso-propenyl group.

Given as examples of the compound which possesses these cross-linking substituents are bisphenol A-type epoxy compounds, bisphenol F-type epoxy compounds, bisphenol S-type epoxy compounds, novolak resin-based epoxy compounds, resol resin-based epoxy compounds, polyethylene(hydroxystyrene) type epoxy compounds, methylol group-containing melamine compounds, methylol group-containing benzoquanamine compounds, methylol group-containing urea compounds, methylol group-containing phenol compounds, alkoxyalkyl group-containing melamine compounds, alkoxyalkyl group-containing benzoquanamine compound, alkoxyalkyl group-containing urea compounds, alkoxyalkyl group-containing phenol compounds, carboxymethyl group-containing melamine resins, carboxymethyl group-containing benzoquanamine resins, carboxymethyl group-containing urea resins, carboxymethyl group-containing phenol resins, carboxymethyl group-containing melamine compounds, carboxymethyl group-containing benzoquanamine compounds, carboxymethyl group-containing urea compounds, and carboxymethyl group-containing phenol compounds.

The compound obtained by introducing the cross-linking substitution group into the acidic functional group in the above-described alkali-soluble resin to provide the resin with characteristics as a crosslinking agent can also be suitably used. In this instance, the amount of the cross-linking functional groups to be introduced is varied according to the types of the introduced cross-linking functional groups and the types of the alkali-soluble resin. Usually, this amount is 5-60 mol% of the total amount of the acidic functional groups in the alkali-soluble resin, with a preferable range being 10-50 mol%. The range from 15 to 40 mol% is most appropriate.

The crosslinking agents can be used either individually or as a mixture of two or more of them in the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention.

The proportion of the above-described components in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition and the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention differs according to the characteristics desired for the resist. Preferable proportions are as follows.

First, in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition, the amount of the acid generator (A) is in the range usually of 0.1-20 parts by weight, preferably 0.5-15 parts by weight, and particularly preferably 0.7-7 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of the acid-cleavable group-containing resin or the alkali-soluble resin. If the amount of the acid generator (A) is less than 0.1 parts by weight, the sensitivity and resolution tend to be decreased; if more than 20 parts by weight, coatibility of the resist is impaired and the pattern form tends to be deteriorated.

The amount of the alkali solubility control agent is usually 5-150 parts by weight, preferably 5-100 parts by weight, and particularly preferably 5-50 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of the alkali-soluble resin. If the amount of the alkali solubility control agent tends less than 5 parts by weight, the rate of residual coating tends to be decreased, leading to swelling of the patterns; if more than 150 part by weights, coating surface is easily cracked, giving rise to deterioration of coating strength.

Typical formulations of these components in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention are as follows.

[1-1] Acid generator (A): 0.1-15 parts by weight, acid-cleavable group-containing resin: 100 parts by weight, or

[1-2] Acid generator (A): 0.1-20 part by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, alkali solubility control

agent: 5-150 parts by weight, preferably,

[1-3] Acid generator (A): 0.5-12 parts by weight, acid-cleavable group-containing resin: 100 parts by weight, or

[1-4] Acid generator (A): 0.5-15 parts by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, alkali solubility control agent: 5-100 parts by weight, and more preferably,

[1-5] Acid generator (A): 0.7-7 parts by weight, acid-cleavable group-containing resin: 100 parts by weight, or

[1-6] Acid generator (A): 0.7-7 parts by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, alkali solubility control agent: 5-50 parts by weight.

Next, in the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition, the proportion of the acid generator (A) is usually 0.1-20 parts by weight, preferably 0.5-15 parts by weight, particularly preferably 0.7-7 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of the alkali-soluble resin. The sensitivity and resolution tend to decrease if this amount of the acid generator (A) is less than 0.1 part by weight. If more than 20 parts by weight, costability of resists and configuration of patterns tend to deteriorate.

The proportion of the crosslinking agent is usually 5-95 parts by weight, preferably 15-85 parts by weight, and particularly preferably 20-75 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of alkali-soluble resin. The proportion of crosslinking agent less than 5 parts by weight may result in reduction in the rate of residual coatings and induce winding or swelling of patterns; the proportion exceeding 95 parts by weight tends to impair developing performances.

Specific proportions of each component in the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition are as follows:

[2-1] Acid generator (A): 0.1-20 parts by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, and crosslinking agent: 5-95 parts by weight, more preferably,

[2-2] Acid generator (A): 0.5-15 parts by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, and crosslinking agent: 15-85 parts by weight, and particularly preferably,

[2-3] Acid generator (A): 0.7-7 parts by weight, alkali-soluble resin: 100 parts by weight, and crosslinking agent: 20-75 parts by weight.

Furthermore, various additives such as functional compounds, surfactants, Lewis base additives, and the like may be optionally formulated in the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition and the negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition.

The functional compounds are the compounds exhibiting the action of improving anti-dry etching performance and pattern configurations. The following compounds can be given as examples of such functional compounds: 1-adamantanol, 3-adamantanol, 1-adamantane methanol, 3-adamantane methanol, 1,3-diadamantanol, 1,3-adamantane dimethanol, 1-adamantanecarboxylic acid, 3-adamantanecarboxylic acid, 1,3-adamantanedicarboxylic acid, 1-adamantanecarboxylic acid, 3-adamantanecarboxylic acid, 1,3-adamantanedicarboxylic acid, 3-methyl-2-norbornane methanol, myrtanol, camphor acid, cis-bicyclo[3.3.0]octane-2-carboxylic acid, 2-hydroxy-3-pinane, camphoric acid, 3-hydroxy-4,7,7-trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-2-acetic acid, 1,5-decalindiol, 4,8-bis(hydroxy)tricyclo[5.2.1.0^{2,6}]decane, borneol, 1-noradamantanecarboxylic acid, 3-noradamantanecarboxylic acid, 2-norbornaneacetic acid, 1,3-norbornanediol, 2,3-norbornanediol, 2,5-norbornanediol, 2,6-norbornanediol, 4-pentylbicyclo[2.2.2]octane-1-carboxylic acid, pinanediol, 1-naphthalene methanol, 2-naphthalene methanol, 1-naphthol, 2-naphthol, 1-naphthalenecarboxylic acid, 2-naphthalenecarboxylic acid, (1-naphthoxy)acetic acid, (2-naphthoxy)acetic acid, 1-naphthylacetic acid, 2-naphthylacetic acid, 1,2-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,3-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,4-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,5-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,6-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,7-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,8-naphthalene dimethanol, 2,3-naphthalene dimethanol, 2,6-naphthalene dimethanol, 2,7-naphthalene dimethanol, 1,2-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,3-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,4-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,5-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,6-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,7-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,8-dihydroxynaphthalene, 2,3-dihydroxynaphthalene, 2,6-dihydroxynaphthalene, 2,7-dihydroxynaphthalene, (1,2-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,3-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,4-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,5-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,6-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,7-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (1,8-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (2,3-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (2,6-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, (2,7-naphthoxy)diacetic acid, 1,2-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,3-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,4-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,5-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,6-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,7-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,8-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 2,3-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 2,6-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 2,7-naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, 1,2-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,3-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,4-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,5-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,6-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,7-naphthyldiacetic acid, 1,8-naphthyldiacetic acid, 2,3-naphthyldiacetic acid, 2,6-naphthyldiacetic acid, 2,7-naphthyldiacetic acid, 3-hydroxy-1,8-dicarboxynaphthalene, 1-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 3-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 4-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 5-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 6-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 7-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 8-hydroxy-2-carboxynaphthalene, 2-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 3-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 4-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 5-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 6-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 7-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 8-hydroxy-1-carboxynaphthalene, 1-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 3-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 4-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid

acid, 5-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 6-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 7-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 8-carboxy-2-naphthoxyacetic acid, 2-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 3-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 4-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 5-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 6-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 7-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, 8-carboxy-1-naphthoxyacetic acid, and the compounds derived by substituting the hydrogen atom in the carboxyl group or hydroxyl group in these compounds with an acid-cleavable group. Here, as the acid-cleavable group, the same groups which are given as the examples of acid-cleavable groups (i) and (ii) in the above description of the acid-cleavable group-containing resin can be given.

These functional compounds may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The amount of the functional compounds to be formulated is usually 50 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the acid-cleavable group-containing resin or alkali-soluble resin.

The surfactants improve coatability and promote developing performances of the radiation sensitive resin composition.

Given as examples of the surfactants used on the present invention are nonionic surfactants, such as polyoxyethylene lauryl ether, polyoxyethylene stearyl ether, polyoxyethylene oleyl ether, polyoxyethylene octylphenyl ether, polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether, polyethylene glycol dilaurate, and polyethylene glycol distearate, and products commercially available under the trademarks, such as KP341™ (manufactured by Sin-Etsu Chemical Co., Ltd.), Polyflow™ No. 75 and No. 95 (manufactured by Kyoel Oil and Fat Chemical Co., Ltd.), Efftops™ EF301, EF303, EF352 (manufactured by Tokem Products), Megafacts™ F171, F173 (manufactured by Dainippon Ink and Chemicals Co., Ltd.), Florades™ FC430, FC431 (manufactured by Sumitomo 3M Co., Ltd.), Asahi Guard™ AG710 (manufactured by Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.), and Surfion™ S-382, SC-101, SC-102, SC-103, SC-104, and SC-105 (manufactured by Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.).

These surfactants may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The amount of the surfactants to be incorporated is normally less than 2 parts by weight for 100 parts by weight of the radiation sensitive resin composition.

The Lewis base additive is the compound exhibiting an action as a Lewis base to the acid produced from the acid generators (A) and/or the other acid generators. Addition of the Lewis base additive improves perpendicularity of resist pattern side walls more effectively.

Nitrogen-containing basic compounds, salts thereof, carboxylic acids, alcohols, and the like can be given as examples of such Lewis base additives, with nitrogen-containing basic compounds being desirable.

Given as specific examples of the nitrogen-containing basic compounds are amine compounds such as triethylamine, tri-n-propylamine, tri-isopropylamine, tri-n-butylamine, tri-n-hexylamine, triethanolamine, triphenylamine, aniline, N,N-dimethylaniline, 2-methylaniline, 3-methylaniline, 4-methylaniline, 4-nitroaniline, 1-naphthylamine, 2-naphthylamine, diphenylamine, ethylenediamine, tetramethylethylenediamine, hexamethylethylenediamine, and pyrrolidine, piperidine; imidazole compounds such as imidazole, 4-methylimidazole, 4-methyl-2-phenylimidazole, thiazolidine, and benzimidazole; pyridine compounds such as pyridine, 2-methylpyridine, 4-ethylpyridine, 2-hydroxypyridine, 4-hydroxypyridine, 2-phenylpyridine, 4-phenylpyridine, nicotinic acid, nicotinic acid amide, quinoline, and acridine; and other nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds such as purine, 1,3,5-triazine, triphenyl-1,3,5-triazine, 1,2,3-triazole, 1,2,4-triazole, and urazole.

These nitrogen-containing basic compounds may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The amount of the Lewis base additives used is usually 1 mol or less, preferably 0.05-1 mol, for 1 mol of the acid generator (A). If the amount of the Lewis base additives exceeds 1 mol, the sensitivity as the resist tends to be decreased.

Other additives which can be used in the radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention include halation preventives, adhesion assistant agents, storage stabilizers, anti-foaming agents, and the like.

Preparation of composition solution

The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition and the negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention are prepared into a solution when used, by dissolving these in a solvent to make a solid concentration of 5-50 wt%, and filtering through a filter with a pore size of 0.2 μm , for example.

Given as examples of the solvent used for preparing such a composition solution are n-propyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, n-butyl alcohol, t-butyl alcohol, cyclohexanol, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, ethylene glycol monoethyl ether, ethylene glycol mono-n-propyl ether, ethylene glycol mono-n-butyl ether, diethylene glycol dimethyl ether, diethylene glycol diethyl ether, diethylene glycol di-n-propyl ether, diethylene glycol di-n-butyl ether, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate, ethylene glycol monoethyl ether acetate, ethylene glycol mono-n-propyl ether acetate, propylene glycol monomethyl ether, propylene glycol monoethyl ether, propylene glycol mono-n-propyl ether, propylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate, propylene glycol monoethyl ether acetate, propylene glycol mono-n-propyl ether acetate, toluene, xylene, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl n-propyl ketone, isopropyl ketone, methyl n-butyl ketone, methyl isobutyl

ketone, 2-heptanone, 3-heptanone, 4-heptanone, cyclopentanone, cyclohexanone, methyl 2-hydroxypropionate, ethyl 2-hydroxypropionate, ethyl 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionate, ethoxyethyl acetate, hydroxyethyl acetate, methyl 2-hydroxy-3-methyl butyrate, 3-methoxybutyl acetate, 3-methyl-3-methoxybutyl acetate, 3-methyl-3-methoxybutyl propionate, 3-methyl-3-methoxybutyl butyrate, ethyl acetate, n-propyl acetate, n-butyl acetate, methyl acetoacetate, ethyl acetoacetate, methyl 3-methoxypropionate, ethyl 3-methoxypropionate, methyl pyruvate, ethyl pyruvate, N-methylpyrrolidone, N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, benzyl ethyl ether, dihexyl ether, diethylene glycol monomethyl ether, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, acetonyl acetone, isophorone, caproic acid, caprylic acid, 1-octanol, 1-nonanol, benzyl alcohol, benzyl acetate, ethyl benzoate, diethyl oxalate, diethyl maleate, γ -butyrolactone, ethylene carbonate, and propylene carbonate.

These solvents may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

Forming resist pattern

To prepare a resist pattern from the positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition or the negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention, the solution of the composition thus prepared is applied to a substrate such as a silicon wafer, aluminum-coated silicon wafer, to form a resist coating by rotational coating, cast coating, or roll coating. The resist coating is then pre-baked and irradiated to form a desired pattern through a mask pattern. Radiation used here is preferably near ultraviolet rays such as an i-line (wavelength: 365 nm), deep ultraviolet rays such as a bright line spectrum from a mercury lamp (wavelength: 254 nm), a KrF excimer laser (wavelength: 248 nm), and an ArF excimer laser (wavelength: 193 nm), X-rays such as synchrotron radiation, or charged particle rays such as an electron beam.

In the preparation of patterns, after exposure to radiation the coatings are preferably heated (hereinafter called post-exposure bake). Although the heating conditions are varied according to the type of the resin composition and the kind of additives used, the resist is usually heated at 30-200°C, preferably 50-150°C.

Moreover, in order to draw the potential capacity of the radiation sensitive resin composition to the maximum, an organic or inorganic reflection preventive film can be formed the substrate in advance according to a method disclosed in Japanese Patent Publication No. 12452/1994, for example. Also, it is possible to provide a protective coat on the resist film to reduce the effect of basic impurities which may be present in the atmosphere according to a method disclosed, for example, in Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 188598/1993. Combined used of these techniques is also acceptable.

Then, the resist coating is developed with an alkaline developer for forming a prescribed pattern.

An alkaline solution in which one or more alkaline compound is dissolved is used as the alkaline developer. Given as examples of alkaline compounds which can be used here are sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, sodium silicate, sodium metasilicate, aqueous ammonia, ethylamine, n-propylamine, diethylamine, di-n-propylamine, triethylamine, methyldiethylamine, dimethylethylamine, triethanolamine, tetramethylammonium hydroxide, pyrrole, piperidine, choline, 1,8-diazabicyclo-[5.4.0-7]-undecene, and 1,5-diazabicyclo-[4.3.0-5]-nonene. The concentration of the aqueous alkaline solution is usually 10 wt% or less. If more than 10 wt%, unexposed parts may also be dissolved in the developing solution.

Moreover, an organic solvent, for example, can be added to the developing solution consisting of the above-described alkaline aqueous solution.

Given as specific examples of such organic solvents are ketones, such as acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclopentanone, cyclohexanone, 3-methyl-2-cyclopentanone, and 2,6-dimethylcyclohexanone; alcohols such as methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, n-propyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, n-butyl alcohol, t-butyl alcohol, cyclopentanol, cyclohexanol, 1,4-hexanediol, and 1,4-hexanedimethylol; ethers such as tetrahydrofuran and dioxane; esters such as ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, and isomyl acetate; aromatic hydrocarbons such as toluene and xylene; phenol, acetonyl acetone, and dimethylformamide.

These organic solvents may be used either individually or in combinations of two or more.

The amount of the organic solvents used is preferably 100 vol% or less of the amount of the alkaline aqueous solution. If the amount of the organic solvents used is more than 100 vol% of the amount of the alkaline aqueous solution, developing performance is impaired, so that there will be an increase in undeveloped areas among the irradiated parts.

A suitable amount of a surfactant and the like can be added to the developing solution which consists of an alkaline aqueous solution.

After development using the developing solution consisting of an alkaline aqueous solution, the resist is washed with water and dried.

Japanese Patent Application No. 353866/1996 is hereby incorporated by reference.

Other features of the invention will become apparent in the course of the following description of the exemplary embodiments which are given for illustration of the invention and are not intended to be limiting thereof.

EXAMPLES

In the examples and comparative examples below measurement of the Mw of polymers and evaluation of various characteristics of the resists were carried out according to the following methods.

Mw:

The Mw was measured by gel permeation chromatography (GPC) using a mono-dispersed polystyrene as a standard, wherein GPC columns (two G2000H_{XL} columns, one G3000H_{XL} column, and one G4000H_{XL} column, all trademarks, manufactured by Tosoh Corp.) were used under the conditions of a flow rate of 1.0 ml/minute, a column temperature of 40°C, and using tetrahydrofuran as an eluant.

Sensitivity:

The optimum exposure sensitivity was determined taking the irradiation dose required for forming a pair of line-and-space patterns (1L1S) with a line width of 0.26 μ m as an optimum dose.

Resolution:

The minimum size (μ m) of resist pattern produced when exposed to light with an optimum exposure dose was taken as the resolution.

Pattern configuration:

The dimensions of the lower side (La) and upper side (Lb) of the square cross section of the 1L1S with a line width of 0.3 μ m formed on a silicon wafer were measured using a scanning type electron microscope. Those satisfying an inequality,

$0.85 \leq Lb/La \leq 1$, and having no bores, cuts, or scrapes are rated to be "Good" and those which do not satisfy any one of these requirements were judged to be "Bad".

Rate of residual coating:

The proportion (%) of resist coating thickness exposed to light at an optimum dose before development of the resist pattern to the thickness after development was taken as the rate of residual coating.

The components used in the following examples and comparative examples were as follows.

Positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition**Acid generators(A):**

- (A-1) 4-Hydroxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate
- (A-2) 4-Methoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate
- (A-3) 4-n-Butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate
- (A-4) 4-t-Butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium trifluoromethanesulfonate
- (A-5) 4-n-Butoxy-1-naphthyltetrahydrothiophenium n-nonafluorobutanesulfonate

Other acid generators:

- (a-1) Triphenylsulfonium trifluoromethanesulfonate
- (a-2) (Bisphenylsulfonyl)methane

Acid-cleavable group containing resins:

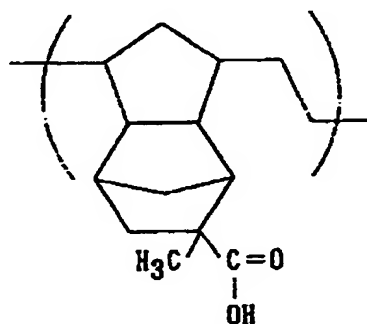
- (B1-1) Resin with 26 mol% of hydrogen atoms of phenolic hydroxyl groups on poly(hydroxystyrene) replaced by t-butoxycarbonyl groups (Mw=9,000)
- (B1-2) Resin with 20 mol% of hydrogen atoms of phenolic hydroxyl groups on poly(hydroxystyrene) replaced by t-butoxycarbonyl groups (Mw=25,000)
- (B1-3) Resin with 32 mol% of hydrogen atoms of phenolic hydroxyl groups on poly(hydroxystyrene) replaced by 1-

ethoxyethyl group (Mw=15,000)

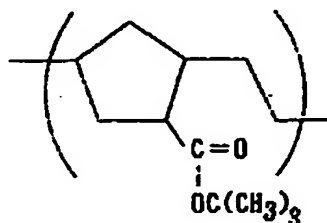
(B1-4) Copolymer of hydroxy- α -methylstyrene and t-butylacrylate (copolymerization mol ratio = 5:5, Mw=12,000)

(B1-5) Copolymer of tetrahydropyranyl acrylate, tricyclodecanyl acrylate, and 2-hydroxypropyl acrylate (copolymerization mol ratio = 4:5:1, Mw=13,000)

(B1-6) Copolymer consisting of the recurring unit shown by the following formula (18-1) and the recurring unit shown by the following formula (18-2) (copolymerization mol ratio = 20:80, Mw=25,000)

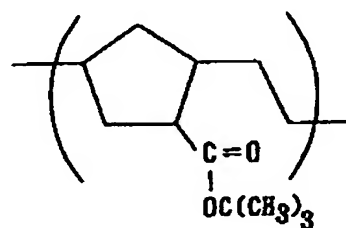


(1 8 - 1)

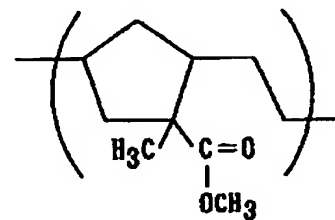


(1 8 - 2)

(B1-7) Copolymer consisting of the recurring unit shown by the following formula (19-1) and the recurring unit shown by the following formula (19-2) (copolymerization mol ratio = 80:20, Mw=32,000)

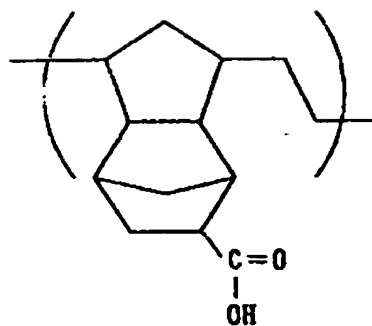


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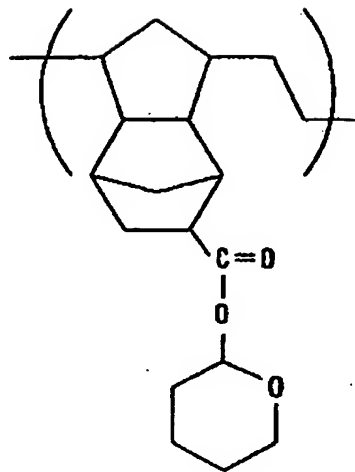


(1 9 - 2)

(B1-7) Copolymer consisting of the recurring unit shown by the following formula (20-1) and the recurring unit shown by the following formula (20-2) (copolymerization mol ratio = 55:45, Mw=12,000)



(2 0 - 1)



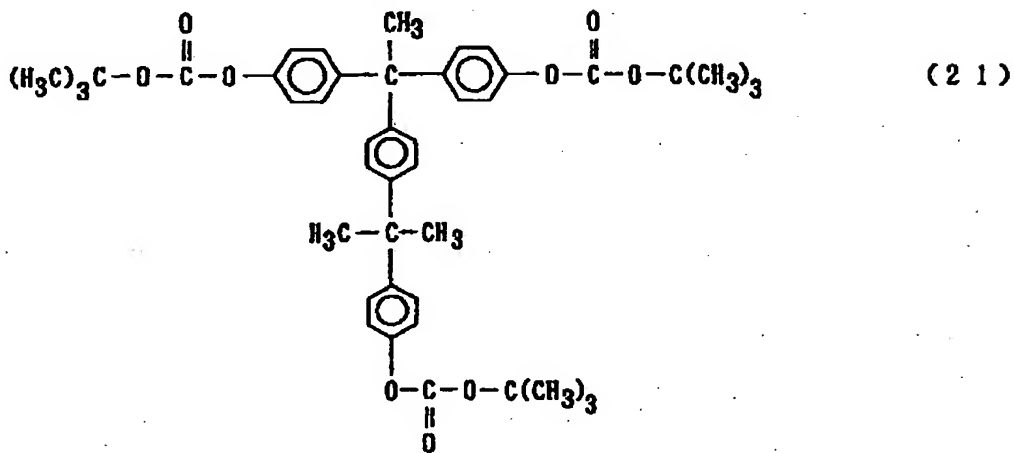
(2 0 - 2)

Alkali-soluble resin:

(B2-1) Poly(p-hydroxystyrene) (Mw=7,500)

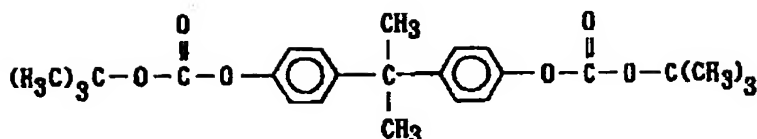
Alkali solubility control agents:

(B2-2) The compound of the following formula (21)



(2 1)

(B2-3) The compound of the following formula (22)



(2 2)

Other components:

As Lewis base additives:

(E-1) Tri-n-butylamine

(E-2) Nicotinic acid amide

As solvents:

(S-1) Ethyl 2-hydroxypropionate

(S-2) Propylene glycol monoethyl ether acetate

(S-3) 2-Heptanone

(S-4) Cyclohexanone

Negative tone radiation sensitive resin compositionAcid generators (A) and other acid generators:

The same compounds as used for the positive tone radiation sensitive resin compositions were used.

Alkali-soluble resins:

(C-1) Poly(p-hydroxystyrene) (Mw=7,500)

(C-2) Copolymer of p-hydroxystyrene and styrene (copolymerization mol ratio = 7: 3, Mw=7,000)

Crosslinking agents:

(D-1) Dimethoxymethylurea (MX290™, manufactured by Sanwa Chemical Co., Ltd.)

(D-2) Tetramethoxymethyl glycolyl (CYMEL 1174™ manufactured by Mitsui Cyanamid Co.)

Other components:

The same Lewis base additives and solvents as used for the positive tone radiation sensitive resin compositions were used.

Examples 1-13, Comparative Example 1

The components shown in Table 1 were mixed to produce homogeneous solutions. The solution was filtered through a membrane filter with a pore diameter 0.2 μm, thus obtaining composition solutions. The compositions in Examples 1-8 and Comparative Example 1 are positive tone type and the compositions in Examples 9-10 are negative tone type.

The composition solutions were applied to silicon wafers by role coating and prebaked for 5 minutes on a hot plate maintained at 100°C to obtain resist films with a film thickness 1.1 μm. The resist films were irradiated through a mask pattern at different irradiation doses using a KrF excimer laser exposure machine (NSR-2005 EX8A™, a product of Nikon Co., Ltd.) for Examples 1-4, Example 8-10, and Comparative Example 1, and an ArF excimer laser exposure machine (lens aperture number = 0.55, a product of Nikon Co., Ltd.) for Examples 5-13. Then, the resists were baked for 1 minute on a hot plate maintained at 110°C, developed for 1 minute at 25°C in an aqueous solution of 2.38 wt%

tetramethylammonium hydroxide, washed with water, and dried.

The results of evaluation are given in Table 2.

TABLE 1

(Unit: parts by weight)

	Resin		Crosslinking agent	Acid generator	Lewis base additive	Solvent
	B1	Others				
Example 1	B1-1 (80)	B2-2 (20)	-	A-1 (2.5)	E-1 (0.01)	S-1 (340)
Example 2	B1-2 (80)	B2-3 (20)	-	A-1 (1.5)	E-1 (0.01)	S-2 (450)
Example 3	B1-3 (100)	-	-	a-1 (1.5)	-	-
				A-1 (2.0)	E-1 (0.01)	S-2 (400)
				a-2 (2.0)	-	-
Example 4	B1-4 (50)	B2-1 (50)	-	A-1 (2.0)	E-1 (0.01)	S-1 (400)
Example 5	B1-5 (100)	-	-	A-1 (3.0)	E-2 (0.02)	S-3 (450)
Example 6	B1-6 (100)	-	-	A-1 (3.0)	E-1 (0.01)	S-3 (450)
Example 7	B1-7 (100)	-	-	A-1 (3.0)	E-1 (0.02)	S-3 (450)
Example 8	B1-8 (100)	-	-	A-1 (3.0)	E-1 (0.02)	S-3 (340)
Example 9	C1 (100)	-	D-1 (25)	A-1 (3.5)	E-2 (0.2)	S-4 (400)
Example 10	C2 (100)	-	D-2 (25)	A-1 (3.5)	E-2 (0.2)	S-1 (400)
Example 11	B1-5 (100)	-	-	A-3 (1.5)	E-1 (0.02)	S-3 (400)
Example 12	B1-5 (100)	-	-	A-4 (2.5)	E-1 (0.01)	S-1 (400)
Example 13	B1-5 (100)	-	-	A-5 (2.0)	E-1 (0.02)	S-3 (340)
Comparative Example 1	B1-1 (80)	-	-	a-1 (2.5)	E-1 (0.01)	S-1 (340)

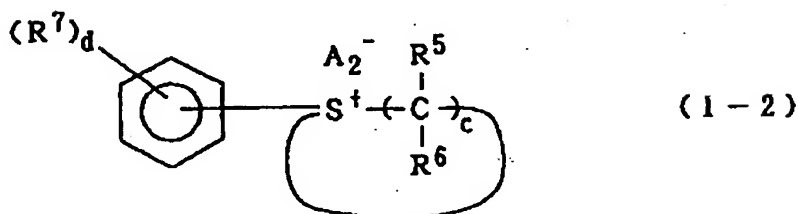
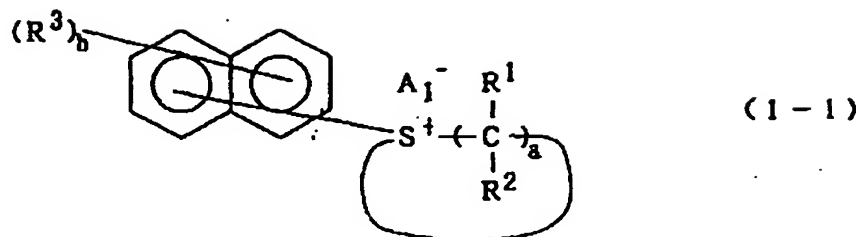
TABLE 2

	Sensitivity (mJ/cm ²)	Resolution (μm)	Pattern configuration	Residual coating (%)
Example 1	20	0.26	Good	97
Example 2	15	0.26	Good	96
Example 3	20	0.26	Good	96
Example 4	25	0.24	Good	98
Example 5	28	0.18	Good	99
Example 6	25	0.22	Good	99
Example 7	18	0.22	Good	99
Example 8	24	0.24	Good	99
Example 9	22	0.24	Good	97
Example 10	16	0.24	Good	97
Example 11	20	0.18	Good	99
Example 12	10	0.18	Good	99
Example 13	20	0.18	Good	97
Comparative Example 1	45	0.26	Good	97

Use of the specific salt as a photoacid generator ensures the positive tone radiation sensitive resin composition and negative tone radiation sensitive resin composition of the present invention to exhibit superior sensitivity, excellent resolution, capability of producing superb pattern configuration, and a reduced rate of residual coatings. These radiation sensitive resin compositions can effectively react by radiation such as near ultraviolet rays, deep ultraviolet rays, X-rays, or a charged particle line. The positive tone and negative tone radiation sensitive resin compositions of the present invention is, therefore, very useful as a resist for producing semiconductors which are anticipated to be miniaturized in the future.

Obviously, numerous modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings. It is therefore to be understood that within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein.

A positive-tone or negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising (A) a photoacid generator represented by the following formula (1-1) or (1-2):



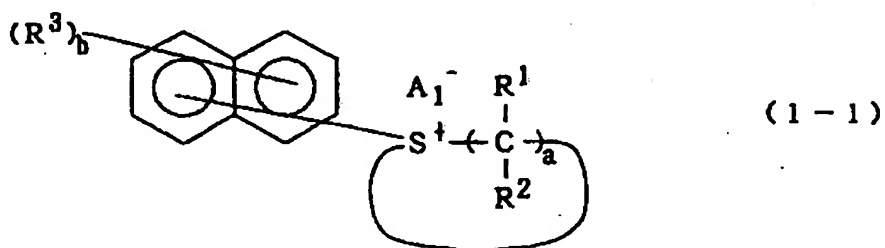
25 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^5 , and R^6 are an alkyl group, R^3 and R^7 are a hydroxyl group or $-OR^4$ (wherein R^4 is an organic group), A_1^- and A_2^- indicate a monovalent anion, a and c denote an integer of 4-7, and b and d an integer of 0-7. The positive-tone resin composition further comprises (B1) an acid-cleavable group-containing resin or (B2) an alkali-soluble resin and an alkali solubility control agent, and the negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition further comprises (C) an alkali-soluble resin and (D) a crosslinking agent. The resin compositions are highly sensitive and exhibit superior resolution and pattern forming performance.

30 Claims

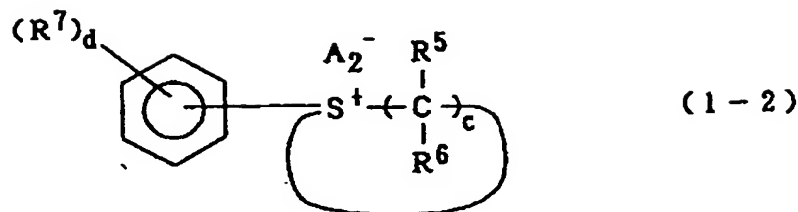
1. A positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising:

35 (A) a photoacid generator represented by the following

formula (1-1):



50 wherein R^1 and R^2 may be either the same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^3 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^4$ (wherein R^4 is an organic group having 1-6 carbon atoms), A_1^- indicates a monovalent anion, a denotes an integer of 4-7, and b is an integer of 0-7; or
55 formula (1-2):



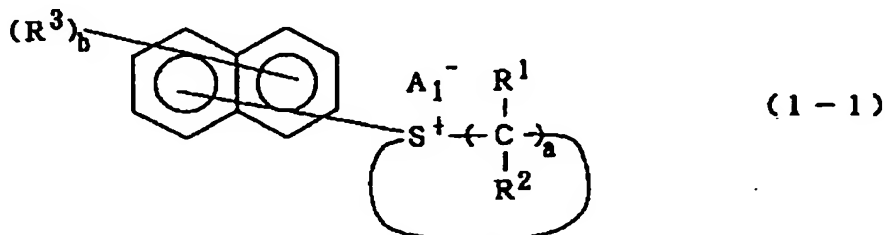
15 wherein R^5 and R^6 may be either the same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^7 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^8$ (wherein R^8 is an organic group having 1-8 carbon atoms), A_2^- indicates a monovalent anion, c denotes an integer of 4-7, and d is an integer of 0-4; and

20 (B1) An acid-cleavable group-containing resin which is insoluble or scarcely soluble in alkali, but becomes soluble in alkali when the acid-cleavable group is cleaved, or
(B2) an alkali-soluble resin and an alkali solubility control agent.

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2. The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the acid-cleavable group-containing resin (B1) is a resin having a structure wherein a hydrogen atom in an acidic functional group is replaced by at least one acid-cleavable group or a resin containing an acid-cleavable group and having an alicyclic structure in the main chain.
 3. The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 2, wherein the acidic functional group is a phenolic hydroxyl group, naphtholic hydroxyl group, or carboxyl group.
 - 30 4. The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 2, wherein the acid-cleavable group is a substituted methyl group, 1-substituted ethyl group, 1-branched alkyl group, silyl group, germlyl group, alkoxycarbonyl group, acyl group, or cyclic acid-cleavable group.
 - 35 5. The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 2, wherein the alicyclic structure in the resin having an alicyclic structure in the main chain is a monocyclic structure originating from a cycloalkane or a polycyclic structure originating from bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane or tetracyclo[4.4.0.1^{2,5}.1^{7,10}]dodecane.
 - 40 6. The positive-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the alkali solubility control agent is a compound containing an acidic functional group wherein at least one substitution group which can be cleaved in the presence of an acid is introduced.
 7. A negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition comprising:

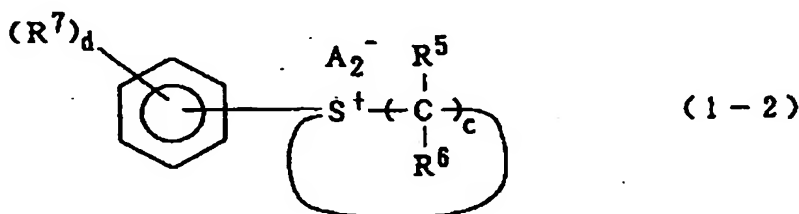
45 (A) a photoacid generator represented by the following

formula (1-1):



wherein R^1 and R^2 may be either the same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^3 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^4$ (wherein R^4 is an organic group having 1-6 carbon atoms), A_1^- indicates a monovalent anion, a denotes an integer of 4-7, and b is an integer of 0-7; or

formula (1-2):

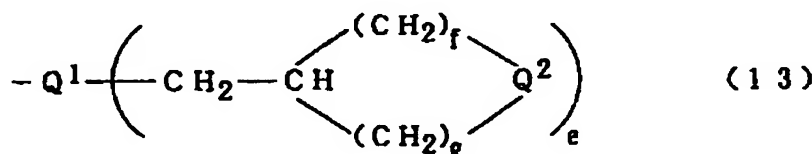


wherein R^5 and R^6 may be either the same or different and each individually represents an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms, R^7 represents a hydroxyl group or $-OR^8$ (wherein R^8 is an organic group having 1-6 carbon atoms), A_2^- indicates a monovalent anion, c denotes an integer of 4-7, and d is an integer of 0-4;

(C) an alkali-soluble resin;

(D) a compound capable of crosslinking the alkali-soluble resin in the presence of an acid.

8. The negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 7, wherein the compound capable of crosslinking the alkali-soluble resin in the presence of an acid is a compound having at least one group shown by the following formulas (13) to (17):



wherein e is an integer of 1 or 2; Q^1 represents a single bond, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-\text{COO}-$, or $-\text{NH}-$, when $e=1$, or a trivalent nitrogen atom when $e=2$, Q^2 indicates $-O-$ or $-S-$, f is an integer of 0-3, and g is an integer of 1-3, provided $f+g=1-4$;



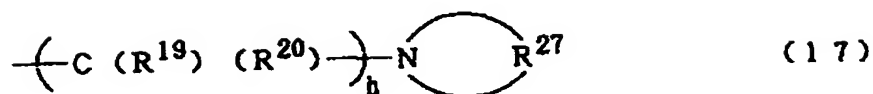
wherein Q^3 is a group $-O-$, $-\text{COO}-$, or $-\text{CO}-$, R^{19} and R^{20} individually represent a hydrogen atoms or alkyl group having 1-4 carbon atoms, R^{21} denotes an alkyl group with 1-5 carbon atoms, aryl group with 6-12 carbon atoms, or aralkyl group with 7-14 carbon atoms, and h is an integer of 1 or more;



wherein R^{22} , R^{23} , and R^{24} individually represent a hydrogen atom or alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms;



wherein R^{19} and R^{20} are the same as defined in the formula (14), R^{25} and R^{26} individually represents an alkyl group having 1-5 carbon atoms and h is an integer of 1 or more; or



wherein R^{19} and R^{20} are the same as defined in the formula (14), R^{27} is a 3-8 membered divalent organic ring having a hetero atom selected from oxygen atom, sulphur atom, and nitrogen atom and d is an integer of 1 or more.

9. The negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 7, further comprising a photoacid generator other than the photoacid generator represented by the formula (1-1) or (1-2), wherein such other photoacid generator is selected from the group consisting of onium salts, halogen-containing compounds, diazoketone compounds, sulfone compounds, and sulfonic acid compounds.
10. The negative-tone radiation sensitive resin composition according to claim 7 comprising 0.1-20 parts by weight of the photoacid generator (A) for 100 parts by weight of the alkali-soluble resin (C) and 5-95 parts by weight of the crosslinking agent D).



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 12 1963

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cls.)
P, X	EP 0 793 144 A (JAPAN SYNTHETIC RUBBER CO., LTD.) * page 14; example 12 *	1-4	G03F7/004 G03F7/038
A	DE 40 35 425 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO., LTD.) * page 8, formulae (2-12) and (2-13) * * claims *	1-6	
A	EP 0 380 010 A (BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) * page 20; example 13 * * page 21; example 17 *	7-10	
A	EP 0 413 087 A (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION) * page 6, line 1 - line 10 * * page 6, line 26 - line 35 * * page 7, line 1 - line 10; claims *	7-10	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cls.)
			G03F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 February 1998	Examiner Dupart, J.-M.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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